

Soviet troops bombard villages near Kabul

Troops and aircraft are said to have bombed villages surrounding the Afghan capital with bombs to repel an attack by its. At least 1,000 insurgents are believed to have been killed. A diplomatic source in Delhi suggests the insurgents are led by an Afghan infantry battalion, effected from the Russians last month.

1,000 insurgents reported killed

The intensified insurgent pressure on the fighting Muslim "holy warriors", shot down one Soviet bomber and a helicopter gunship in quick succession 18 miles north of Kabul at Shikardara, insurgents in Pakistan said.

Radio Kabul said 140 students from Sorjya Lycee in the capital were taken to hospital after the black imperialist American agents and Chinese servants used poisonous gas to attack them on Monday. Anti-Soviet students have been boycotting classes.

Practical offensive: The insurgents, fighting for the control of Kabul, are an ordinary "holy warriors" but mostly regular Afghan troops who defected and joined hands with the insurgents during the past five months, a diplomatic report received from Kabul said. (Agence France-Presse reports from Delhi).

Observers said that this explained why such an "impractical" offensive for the control of the Afghan capital was launched by the insurgents with heavy odds against them. The offensive, the first of its kind since the Soviet invasion, is being led by an Afghan infantry battalion which defected late last month from Panjshir valley, north of Kabul where it was stationed.

Soldiers' letters, page 8

Letes again ignore Thatcher plea

By Correspondent

In reply to another question about the "unwise journey to Moscow", Mrs Thatcher said she hoped every athlete was fully aware of what was going on and of the boost to Russian government morale their trip to Moscow would give. Government criticized: Olympic leaders attacked Government "hypocrisy" after Mrs Thatcher's remarks in the Commons (the Press Association reports).

The British Olympic Association remained unmoved by Mrs Thatcher's pressure and an earlier call for an Olympic boycott by Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary.

Instead of the small profit on freight planned by BR for this year, losses are already over £50m and could approach £100m by the end of the year.

With the state of the industrial economy looking "desperate", BR's carrying of heavy goods like steel and coal are 22 million tonnes down on budget, producing revenue losses of £20m to £25m already, on top of the £30m lost on the steel strike.

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Herr Brandt demands farm policy reforms

From Patricia Clough

Essen, June 10

Herr Willy Brandt, the Social Democrat Party leader, today demanded that the EEC's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) be reformed "from top to bottom".

"We cannot tolerate the public waste any longer, either financially or morally," he told the Social Democrat Party congress here. "Reform must come soon if the community is not to perish."

He called for Europeans to exert strong pressure on their governments. Without that, he said, talk of reforming the CAP would come to nothing.

Herr Brandt commented that he could "afford to speak more clearly" than his colleagues in the Government. In fact, he went much further than Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, did yesterday.

Sources close to Herr Brandt said that his purpose was to work up a head of steam in favour of CAP reform among party and public opinion to give Herr Schmidt the political impetus to tackle the issue in Brussels.

The Chancellor, inhibited by the many considerations imposed by his office—among them, no doubt, tact towards his friend, President Giscard d'Estaing in France—has been more wary. He spoke yesterday of indispensable adjustments to the CAP and a more balanced distribution of financial burdens. Without them, the Community would not be able to finance the entry of new members, he said.

Herr Brandt did not raise the issue of enlargement. But he had sharp words for Britain's recent behaviour in the community, which he implied was partly to blame for its present "serious crisis". He did not want to go into Britain's contributions, which were without doubt too high, he said, "but I want to remind ourselves and the public once again how a reasonable cause can become dangerous nonsense."

The community, he said, was "in a pitiful state" and many meetings present a picture that makes one angry—busy people haggling like merchants at a bazaar without buying the carpet. That cannot be all London's fault.

The present situation, he said, "cannot, I am firmly convinced, go on for much longer. We are meeting growing, nay, outright indignation and not only among German consumers, who have to pay high prices, while the ordinary farmers do not do particularly well out of it. And we all have to watch while food is destroyed or sold off cheap elsewhere."

About 70 per cent of the EEC's funds went into agricultural channels, but only a minimal amount to the farmers themselves, he said.

Continued on page 6, col 2



President Carter's car speeds from a Miami protest in which stones and bottles were thrown. Report, page 6.

Mr Steel's welcome for Jenkins initiative not shared by Liberals

By Ian Bradley

Two Liberal MPs attacked Mr Roy Jenkins yesterday for trying to "go it alone" in creating a centre party in British politics and accused him of overlooking the Liberal Party.

Mr Cyril Smith, MP for Rochdale, picked up the aeronautical metaphor used by Mr Jenkins at his speech to the Parliamentary Press Gallery on Monday and turned it against him.

Speaking in Cheltenham, Mr Smith said: "It could be that when his plane arrived on the runway, he would find another plane waiting to take off. The other plane would possibly be the one he was trying to get on the runway. It would be so much easier therefore to transfer the passengers from the second plane to the first, and thereby conserve energy."

He went on: "If Mr Jenkins wishes to join the Liberal Party for one welcome, he will have to open arms but I think any electoral arrangement with Mr Jenkins and any new party that he envisages would be wholly undesirable and I would have thought that history proves that point."

In the same vein, Mr David Alton, speaking in his constituency of Liverpool, Edge Hill, said: "There is room within the Liberal Party for Mr Jenkins and his friends, and they will be welcome, but for them to believe it possible to create a centre party without the cooperation of Liberals is not only naïve but would be an act of incredible folly."

Both Mr Smith's and Mr Alton's remarks are in marked contrast to the enthusiastic welcome given to Mr Jenkins's speech on Monday evening by



Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader.

Interviewed on the BBC television programme *Nationwide*, Mr Steel said: "I think Mr Jenkins will make a major contribution to changing the shape of the British political pattern."

It is understood that the more critical remarks by Mr Smith and Mr Alton reflect a widespread feeling among Liberal MPs that the party at large that Mr Steel was too enthusiastic in his initial response to Mr Jenkins's speech, which it was being pointed out, hardly made any reference to the Liberals.

Mr Steel last night responded more cautiously to Mr Jenkins's speech, when he told a Liberal rally at Matfield, Kent, that the former Labour politician's analysis of Britain's malaise was the same as the Liberals had been making.

He would continue a dialogue with Mr Jenkins and anyone else prepared to assist in securing badly needed reforms in the country, he went on, but gave warning that "no Liberal should imagine that we are going to sit around waiting for January 7, 1981, and the return of Mr Jenkins to Britain."

Mr Steel avoided any reference to possible arrangements or pacts between the Liberals and a new centre party before the next election.

Although last week he ruled out any formal pact which would submerge the Liberals' identity in a new centre party, he is known not to have discounted individual local pacts with disaffected Labour social democrats.

However, in a statement last night, Lord Beaumont of Whitley, a former Liberal Party president, gave warning that any local constituency association which supported a non-Liberal candidate, or failed to field a Liberal candidate when it could, would be in breach of the party's constitution.

Sir Arnold Weinstock, head of General Electric Company, categorically denied last night that he had given any support to Mr Jenkins's idea of a "third force" political party in Britain.

In an interview with Robert McKenzie on the BBC's *Playford* programme, Sir Arnold agreed that the consensus of which the British political system had been based for so long was falling apart, but would only concede that the idea of a third party holding the balance between opposing ideologies was "interesting."

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Money supply grows above official target

By Caroline Atkinson and Roman Eisenstein

Growth in the money supply accelerated out of the Government's target range last month, dashing hopes of an early cut in minimum lending rate. A sharp rise in the Government's own borrowing, coupled with continuing strong growth in private sector bank loans, are thought to have sent the money supply up by 2 per cent in May.

This brings the annual rate of growth over the last three months to 11.2 per cent and thus outside the Government's target range of 7 to 11 per cent. With the "corset" restrictions coming off this month there will be a further increase in money supply because of higher bank lending.

The Government borrowed an exceptionally large £2,254m in May. Although officials stress that it is too soon in the financial year to draw firm conclusions from the figures, there is no doubt that they will come as a blow to ministers.

Part of the reason for their hesitation in reducing interest rates has been the fear that the public sector's demand for credit might start to put upward pressure on the money supply in the coming months, even if the private sector begins to borrow less.

In fact, bank lending continued to rise in May with a 1.7 per cent increase in the banks' eligible liabilities.

The figures sent the gilt market down at first by 1 point although there was a late recovery largely because foreigners continued to underwrite to buy government stock. Paradoxically, the disappointing bank lending figures gave the pound a boost on the foreign exchange markets.

Dealers assumed that British interest rates will remain attractively high while money growth is not within the Government's target. They therefore came back into sterling yesterday afternoon after selling pounds in the morning. The rate ended at 2.33 against the dollar, 1.8 cents down on the day. Against a basket of currencies, the pound dropped

0.4 points to 73.5 per cent of its end-1971 value.

Government borrowing is extremely hard to predict but is a crucial influence on the money supply. It now seems likely that the figures for the central government borrowing will remain bad for several months. This is partly because of the usual pattern of borrowing, with early months of the financial year bearing a large part of the burden.

Government spending appears to be rising more than allowed for in the Budget and spending plans. In the first two months of the financial year central government increased its spending on supply services by £2,582m. The Budget forecast was for a rise of only £1,091m, or 20 per cent, for the year as a whole.

On the revenue side, the figures for May were distorted by the lack of any receipts from the North Sea. However, Inland Revenue receipts were up by 26 per cent for April and May together compared to the same months last year and against a Budget forecast of 20 per cent. There is some evidence that value-added tax payments are running behind, as they are below the expected total so far.

Nationalized industry borrowing rose sharply in April and May. It was £185m higher than in the same two months of 1979.

The central government borrowing requirement so far this financial year has totalled £3,180m, compared with £2,825m last year. Some economists fear that the depth of the recession this year will lead to an inexorable rise in government borrowing, as tax receipts fall and the number of people on the dole rises. However, this may be incompatible with money targets if private sector loan demand drops with recession.

The banking figures for the five weeks to May 21 show that bank lending to the private sector is not abating. The lending figures from the London clearing banks show that on a seasonally unadjusted basis advances are up by £518m.

Financial Editor, page 23

Rail fares likely to rise again

By Michael Bailey

Transport Correspondent

A further fare rise for British Rail travellers in the autumn is now "touch and go" after a disastrous drop in freight traffic in the first five months of the year, Sir Peter Parker, British Rail's chairman, said yesterday.

Instead of the small profit on freight planned by BR for this year, losses are already over £50m and could approach £100m by the end of the year.

With the state of the industrial economy looking "desperate", BR's carrying of heavy goods like steel and coal are 22 million tonnes down on budget, producing revenue losses of £20m to £25m already, on top of the £30m lost on the steel strike.

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The best hope, said Sir Peter in an exclusive interview, is that the serious plight of BR will impress itself on the railway unions and give added impetus to implementation of the new productivity deal which would particularly help the ailing freight business.

He described the reported remark by Mr William Ronksley, president of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, yesterday that the productivity deal meant slavery for railwaymen as "difficult to understand."

Sir Peter was speaking after the opening of a new £250,000 station at Moulsecomb, near Brighton, Southern Region's first for 25 years.

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Heath call for action in the West

By Fred Emery

Political Editor

New proposals for concerted Western action, including a military presence, to uphold the security of Middle East oil production, were set out in a call for European action on monetary reform and the Palestinian problem, were made last night in an important speech by Mr Edward Heath.

The former Prime Minister, dealing with the world economic depression in an address to the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, said the West must both reduce its dependence on oil imports and conduct its strategy towards the Middle East oil producers.

Europe and the United States must provide "substantial" economic assistance with Turkey and Pakistan being the two most urgent cases. Friendly Middle East countries must have their military capability reinforced by the West, in order to improve their efforts to deal with externally inspired subversion.

Their leaders should be encouraged, but not coerced, "to modify over a period of time those policies and institutions which foster inequality and unrest."

Then, pointing out that the West at present did not have the capability to fulfil commitments made by the United States to the region, this apparently a reference to President Carter's warning last January, Mr Heath declared: "Every Western country which is capable of doing so must help to strengthen the West's military presence in the region, particularly the Indian Ocean."

He went on to caution however: "We must understand that the effectiveness of our policies, in the economic, diplomatic and military spheres, depends upon the discretion with which they are executed."

Any action by the West that could be locally interpreted as mortgaging people's control over their own affairs to external powers, or as an affront to cultural or religious values "is in the long run a recipe for our own political irrelevance."

And on a day on which Mrs Margaret Thatcher, as Commons question time had spoken of the EEC initiative regarding the Palestinians, and how vital it was not to cause any impediments to the Camp David process, Mr Heath called for a redoubling of efforts to achieve a solution for the Palestinians.

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ing girl and in wood

for Clare Hutchison aged 14 who missing for six days, today when her 7 was found in a van, who was not charged last night.

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Opec price deal 'victory for moderates'

An agreement to raise some oil prices by \$2 a barrel was reached at a meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Algiers. It will mean only a small rise in United Kingdom petrol prices and no increase in the North Sea oil price.

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Fears of New Hebrides revolt spreading

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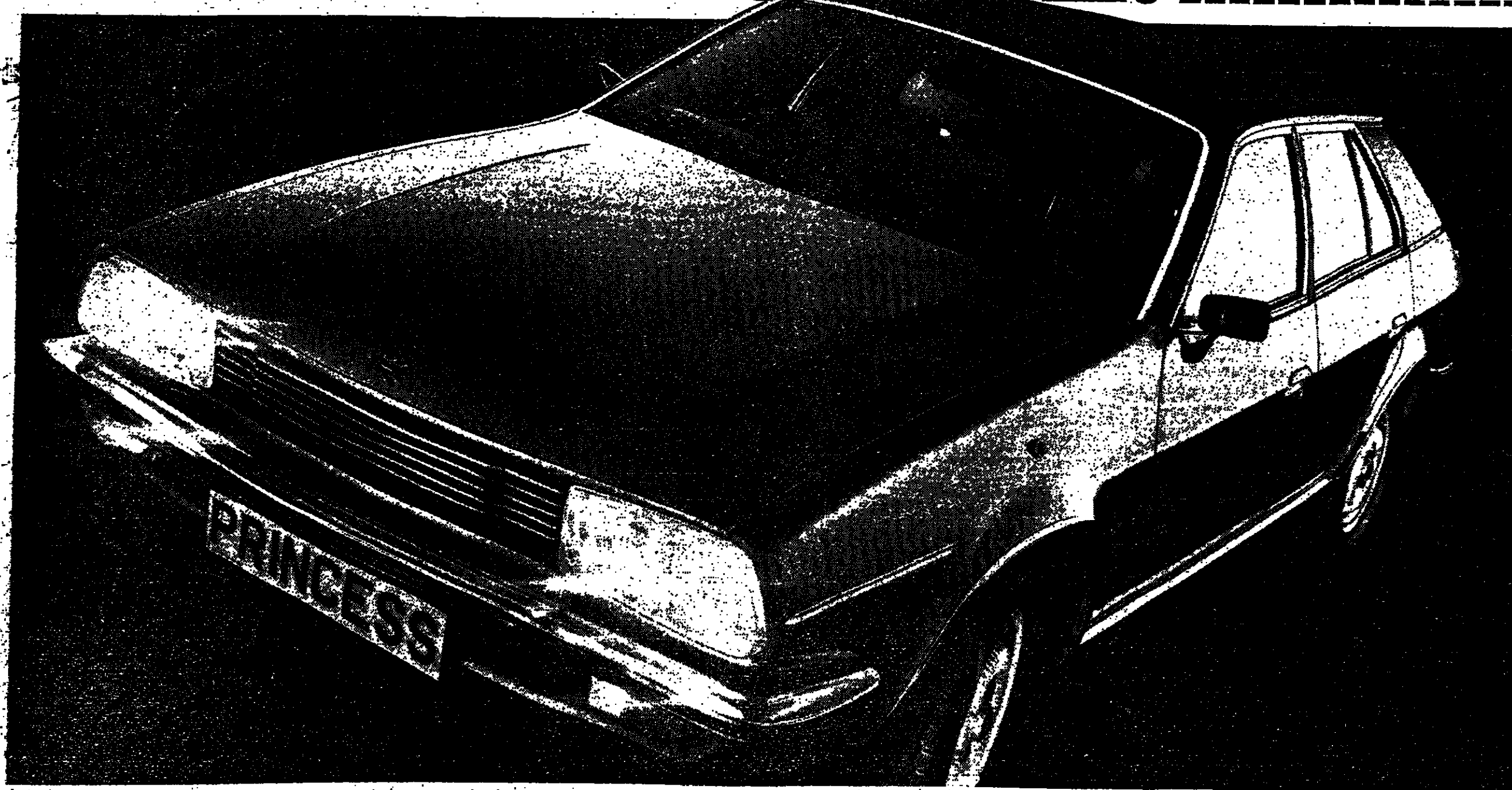
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HOME NEWS

Experiment to involve private industry in local initiatives

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

The Government is to launch a scheme to encourage private industry and commerce in local initiatives in cooperation with local authorities.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said yesterday that he would select between 30 and 40 towns and cities for the experiment. He wanted representatives of industry and commerce to get together with councils in those areas during the next six months to devise ways of contributing to the decisions of local authorities and the Government.

Mr Heseltine told members of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry at its annual luncheon that the scheme would help the private sector to fill the vacuum created by the contraction in the Government's role.

The organization set up to implement it would often be based on Chambers of Commerce. The Government was making changes against a very unhelpful economic background and success was likely to depend on the forces occupying the vacated ground.

"On the record of the last 30 years, the people who will compete most vigorously to fill that vacuum will be those least interested in securing the objectives for which the vacuum was created. Already the pressure groups seek to outbid each other with their stories of the hardship brought about by spending cuts, Mr Heseltine said.

£181,000 damages for boy

Agreed damages of £181,000 were awarded in a High Court settlement in Birmingham yesterday, to David Braddock, aged 15, who was paralysed in a street accident in which two others were killed. The award was against Mr Stephen Proudmore, of Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, the driver of the car involved.

Mr Harry Walton, the boy's counsel, announcing the settlement, said that on October 13, 1977, David Braddock, also of Burslem, and some other boys were struck by Mr Proudmore's car after it had mounted the pavement. The elder brother of David Braddock and another boy were killed.

NUT leader says minister is insensitive

By Our Education Correspondent

A teacher's union leader yesterday accused Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, of showing "utter insensitivity to the feelings and morale of the teaching profession" during a speech on Friday.

Mr Carlisle told students of King Alfred's College of Education, Winchester, that the establishment and enforcement of clear standards of behaviour would greatly enhance the professional image of teachers and would "regain for them the confidence, cooperation, and respect of society, which I believe has slipped most regretably in recent years".

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said: "That sort of sweeping and totally unsubstantiated statement, wholly unworthy of a Secretary of State, is obviously intended to divert public attention from the damage which the Government is inflicting on the education service, and from the kind of gaffes Mr Carlisle has been making about the need for essential materials for schools, thereby adding yet more inequalities to those already created by his Government's education policy".

Mr Jarvis, who was addressing the union's branch at Yoxford, Suffolk, accused local education authorities of showing the same kind of insensitivity to the mood of the teaching profession by substituting for their original 13 per cent pay offer the "ridiculous" offer of 9.3 per cent.

The local authorities decided last week to reduce their offer in response to the teachers' 1980 pay claim after failing to reopen negotiations on the 18 per cent comparability award for teachers which the Clegg commission said should have been only 14.5 per cent.

Mr Jarvis appealed to teachers in different unions to forget differences and to build up a united front.

Richardson letters tell family of parole hopes

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Charles Richardson, the former London gang leader now on the run, says of crime and prison: "This kind of life is a mug's game, only meant for idiots, who think they can break the laws of society and get away with it."

"They might get away with a few things—but in the end one gets caught and the suffering and anguish one has to endure is not worth any of the excitement or the feeling of being big and tough in front of your mates."

His comments are in letters to his family and released by them as part of a campaign to obtain parole. They do not refer to his original crimes, for which he was given 25 years' imprisonment after a trial which disclosed torture and violence in the London underworld. They speak of his continuing deep involvement in his family, and his growing frustration, resulting from dashed hopes of parole after 14 years, which led to his absconding from Spring Hill open prison, near Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

"It is only when you lose your freedom that you understand how wonderful it is to be able to open your own front door and go for a walk", he says.

He writes in February, 1975 of his attitude to prison: "It is beyond me that trying to make people better by making them worse is any kind of sane solution. This doesn't apply in my case as I have the mental capacity to rise above prison. This is why I am grateful to find myself on this Open University course."

"It keeps my mind busy and in the light of my self-knowledge and awareness I can put everything in the right perspective. Parole remains an obsession. As long ago as December, 1976, he was writing: "Let's hope that next Christmas we are all together, one united happy family... I have been given my parole form to fill in, in preparation for the interviews. Moved to Spring Hill open prison he says, in July, 1979: "I shouldn't be here too long."



Two police photograph views of Charles Richardson.

... That letter from the Parole Board to the governor here makes a certainty of my release this next time."

There are signs of tension: "When one is restricted in prison one becomes very frustrated and in an open prison one can become even more so, as with the comparative freedom one enjoys one is still shackled and unable to be one's own man, which can make one rather uptight."

But he remains optimistic. "The chief (chief officer) had a chat with me, said the Parole Board want to see how I am in open prison conditions before I come out next time. The governor of Maidstone also told me this, said no problem of getting it next time."

He writes to his mother on February 12: "Well, they've seen me (open conditions) and I have virtually walked the streets on eight occasions." Writing to one of his daughters the same month about parole, he says that he has been "strongly recommended from here, but now have to wait on the main parole board in London. Everyone here thinks it is in the bag."

On May 9 he was hoping it would be the last visit his family would have to pay him in prison. In the four cases submitted with his to a February meeting of the board two men had been released and two were on home leave. Then he heard that he had been rejected.

His last letter from captivity on May 21 says: "The parole knock-back. What can I say? I have tried my very best to get out as soon as possible. He places hope in Mr Whitehead's introducing half remission of sentences before Christmas, gives no hint of his intention to abscond. But he had expressed his growing frustration in February, 1979, in a poem written for the prison magazine at Maidstone: "Institutions are uneconomic satisfactions grow on you like Pulp, flattened out, symbolic because they are alive. Seeking recognition that cannot be given; within the heart of hearts; they are malignant. Like the microbe that fosters itself Your living lunar cell."

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Sir Cecil's rose sold for £750

By Frances Gibb

A faded yellow rose that Sir Cecil Beaton, the designer and photographer, pressed and kept until his death this year because Greta Garbo had kissed it, was sold at auction yesterday for £750 to another photographer.

It was bought on behalf of Mr Gary Rogers, aged 39, a New Zealander working as a magazine photographer in Germany, who would have gone "to any limits" to obtain it. The rose sold at Sir Cecil's Wiltshire home at Reddish House, Broad Chalke, Salisbury, brought a touch of romanticism to the end of the auction in which every last object, down to kitchen and garden equipment, was sold by Christie's.

Five hundred people packed the marquee for the two days of the sale and a total of £400,000 was paid for the house contents; the house was sold for £225,000 on the first day.

Mrs Heike O'Hanlon, the Christie's press officer who bid for the rose, said: "Mr Rogers rang me an said he wanted it, and told me to get it."

Mr Rogers, who admired Sir Cecil's work, loved the romantic story of the rose and wanted to be sure it went to a good home, she said.

The rose dates from a party in 1932 where Sir Cecil met Miss Garbo, after being obsessed with her image for a long time. He relates how "a huge vase of yellow roses freshly sprayed with water had been placed on the bar".

Miss Garbo looked at it, and said: "A rose that lives and dies and never again returns". Then she picked a rose, kissed and caressed it, and raised it over her head. Beaton kept pressed between the pages of his diary.

Denial over Broadmoor man's hostel

By Richard Ford

The trustees of a hostel where Ronald Scales, a former Broadmoor hospital patient, lived before murdering a schoolgirl, denied yesterday that they had acted irresponsibly in agreeing to house him.

The trustees were replying to criticisms about the supervision of Mr Scales while he was on trial release.

They said they had accepted the professional advice of a medical officer dealing with Mr Scales while he was in the top security hospital, and rigorously supervised him when he was at Friary House, Plymouth.

"He was as closely supervised as anyone I have ever known", Mr Peter Fellows a senior probation officer and secretary of the Friary House Trust which runs the hostel for homeless former offenders, said. "He had been institutionalized for 17 years before coming to the hostel so he had a lot of adjusting to do."

Mr Fellows added that the trustees sympathized with the mother of the schoolgirl, Miss Anita Ayvalle, over the murder. "In this tragic affair, we agreed to accept a man that Broadmoor had decided was safe to be allowed out on leave. We were assured he was ready for release."

However, less than a year after his release from Broadmoor on trial leave, Mr Scales, aged 44, murdered Miss Ayvalle. He was sentenced to life imprisonment by Bristol Crown Court last month. Mr Scales had been admitted to Broadmoor in 1962 after a conviction for rape and had spent two previous periods at the hostel as part of a programme of rehabilitation.

Since the murder, the hostel, which is planning to move to larger premises in the city, has decided not to accept any more applicants who had committed serious offences until the position is reviewed.

The campaign faces a particular difficulty in that the Musicians' Union is demanding that the BBC should reinstate the orchestra, the union is striking to obtain the reinstatement of all five dismissed BBC orchestras.

Mr Jewell said the members of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra ought to drop their demand for reinstatement and decide among themselves what sort of independent orchestra they favoured.

Mr Stanley Hibbert, assistant secretary of the union, said that if the possibility offered by the campaign was realistic the union would examine it. But he added: "What we would insist on, certainly at this stage, is that the BBC remain the employer."

The BBC said yesterday that as a result of the strike it had cut three programmes on Radio 3 including the relay of a concert from the Aldeburgh Festival. On BBC2 The Old Grey Whistle Test was shown without live music.

Campaign to save orchestra

By Our Music Reporter

Supporters of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra are meeting in East Kilbride today in an attempt to draw up plans to save the orchestra from disbandment and to establish it as an independent organization.

East Kilbride District Council will be host at the meeting and among those attending are expected to be Sir Charles Groves and Lady Aberdeen and Tamar.

One of those involved in the plans, Mr Derek Jewell, publishing director of Times Newspapers, said they needed promises of £2.5m over the next five years if the orchestra was to be safely established. They were pressing the BBC to suspend the dismissal of the players for three or six months to allow time to raise more money.

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The outcome is to give computer designers a set of techniques that have been likened to those by which a ship designer knows how, why and where to incorporate bulkheads to ensure that a vessel floats in spite of damage.

However, the analogy has limitations, because that part of a computer system for which it is most difficult to calculate reliability concerns the software, or its programming system.

Scientists and engineers designing computers adopted much of the practice evolved earlier by telecommunications specialists for detecting errors. Correction was a matter of retransmitting a message.

The new ideas have been likened to bulkheads because they are intended to provide an impediment to the flow of bad information through a computer-based system. Bad information may not only be a false signal generated by equipment being operated incorrectly, it may also relate to information in part of a large network of computers and associated equipment that is out of date.

The idea of introducing impediments to obtain reliability has become a matter of

Fishermen sceptical of EEC policy

By Our Agriculture Correspondent

British fishermen are sceptical about the ability of the EEC to police a common fisheries policy, Mr Iain MacSweeney, deputy chief executive of the Scottish Fishermen's Organisation, said yesterday.

Regulations to enforce such a policy would be costly, he said, and the ultimate sanction of a ruling in the European Court of Justice, he said at a conference in London organized by the Society for Underwater Technology. The inability of the EEC authorities to enforce such rulings had been illustrated by French defiance of an order to end its ban on imports of British lamb.

Mr MacSweeney was not convinced by assurances from Brussels that fish rules would have greater legal force than those on lamb. "There is at least the possibility that a member state can, if it so desires, ignore a ruling of the court," he said.

Mr MacSweeney is a former official in the Scottish Department for Agriculture and Fisheries and his present organization, the largest of its type in Britain, represents owners of almost 700 boats.

He said that there were two places where a common policy on fishing methods could be enforced. They were at sea when fish were caught, and port when they were landed.

"As the EEC has no navy or police force, it remains the responsibility of each member state to enforce compliance with the regulations", Mr MacSweeney said.

He gave a warning that fish processing factories would need to prepare for a recovery of herring fisheries in the 1980s. "The ban on herring fishing in the past few years has greatly reduced the size of the herring processing industry in the United Kingdom."

It would be tragic if herring had to be ground into pigfeed because there were insufficient factories to cook and pack it for human consumption.

Bench refuses plea for new casino in London

An application by Mecca Sportsman Ltd, the casino subsidiary of Grand Metropolitan Hotels Ltd, to open a new casino at the Hilton International Hotel in Park Lane, Mayfair, London, was refused by the South Westminster Licensing Magistrate yesterday.

Planning permission was refused by Westminster City Council last Thursday. The licence application was opposed by the Gaming Board, by the Residents' Association, and by 4 Grand Metropolitan magistrates held was satisfied after listing clubs in it awarded costs of £1,000.

Last month Mecca itself offered a similar application. Guard new casino at the Hotel, Mayfair.

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Postgrad grants up 5 pc less inflation

By Our Education Correspondent

The basic maintenance for postgraduate students by 14.7 per cent the Government cut 19.7 per cent is needed pace with inflation.

The increase is that given to under in March.

Mr Mark Carlisle, of State for Educ Science, announcing rates for the 1980/71 year in the Comm day, said that the in assessment of the ex in living costs and students' cost of a triennial review "minus an abatement percentage points as tion to the Governm of restraining publi ture".

The basic rate for a student in Lon away from home is £2,250 to £2,180 to £2,090 fr outside London 11 from home; and £1,565 for student

Mr Carlisle also increases in the "older students' s "postgraduate allowance" ranging per cent to 74 per cent, was 10 per cent higher than the inc main grant to students to gain a industry, he said.

The older student per cent to student supported when time employment two years. The post perience allowanc students who have least two years of experience, relan

From Students' grant will £330 for a student 1977-78, which one year of full-ti an approved profes city".

Post graduates w receive scholarshi subsidies of up to before there is a their grant. The is £500.

There are 43,000 students who receive 15,000 receive gra Government or of funded bodies. grants for the est postgraduates in £36m.

Prison off survives second at Belfast

A Northern 11 officer yesterday afternoon attempt seven months. H down the drive o Belfast; with his when a red Corti up and shots we the window.

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The investment that keeps getting better and better!

Abbey National Open Bondshares offer you more...

More for one and two-year investors

From June 1st, Abbey National are stepping up the interest rates on Open Bondshares. The One-Year Rate becomes 11%, the Two-Year Rate 11.25%. So Open Bondshares now offer yet another substantial advantage over comparable schemes. No wonder Abbey National Open Bondshares have been such a huge success with investors. In just one year of existence, over £525 million has been invested!

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Bondshare Interest can be paid half yearly or monthly. So you can enjoy a monthly income or, if you choose, your monthly interest can be paid direct into an Abbey National Share Account for you, and enjoy Share Account interest. So with Abbey National you can get interest on your interest! The compounding effect of this Abbey bonus can raise the real rate you can get from a Bondshare scheme to as high as 13% on your original investment, the equivalent of 18.57% gross.*

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1. You need only invest for one year. Invest for anything from one to five

years or more. Whatever suits your circumstances. The table shows the rate you'll enjoy. So you could take your money and interest out after just one year or leave it in to grow at only three months' notice.

Rate of interest in	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years
1st year	11.00	11.25	11.50	12.00	12.50
2nd year	11.25	11.50	11.75	12.25	12.75
3rd year	11.50	11.75	12.00	12.50	13.00
4th year	12.00	12.25	12.50	13.00	13.50
5th year	12.50	12.75	13.00	13.50	14.00

*Interest rates based on a Share Account rate of 10.50%
These rates may vary but the Bondshare interest above normal share rate is guaranteed: 1 year 0.50%, 2 year 0.75%, 3 year 1.00%, 4 year 1.50%, 5 year 2.00%.

2. You don't have to start again. Once you reach the maximum interest rate after five years - you can stay on it as long as you stay in the scheme.

3. Get maximum rate from year 1. If you agree to save for longer than one year, you'll get the appropriate interest rate immediately. So that if you agree to save for five years, your investment goes straight on to that maximum rate.

4. No need to tie up your capital. Once you complete your term, you can leave your money gaining its highest interest at just three months' notice.

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I/We understand that the investment cannot be withdrawn before the end of the initial contracted term, except in the case of death and that after the contracted term is completed the investment will continue in this scheme subject to 3 months' notice of closure by me/us or the Society, and that the rate may vary but the differential over share rate is guaranteed.

Please pay my Bondshare interest into my/our Share Account Number ☐

OR into a new Share Account in my/our name ☐

Full Name(s)

Address

Postcode

Signature(s)

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E NEWS

in fights y EEC on farm sprays

Correspondent
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The Prince of Wales disposing of one of the Buckingham Palace empties in the bottle bank.

Prince takes to the bottle bank

By a Staff Reporter

The conservation-minded
Prince of Wales has discovered
an energy-saving way of disposing
of the considerable number
of empties at Buckingham
Palace.

Now the royal household is to
introduce the idea to Windsor
Castle where even more people
live, and doubtless more bottles
are thrown away.

No empty escapes the bottle
bank, whether it has been served
at a cut glass reception, in
the private apartments for per-
sonal consumption, or below
stairs. They all end up in the

outside skip, which takes 10,000
bottles, and has pride of place
in the palace's tradesman's
yard.

The drinking habits of the
palace residents—both royal
and humble—were laid bare
yesterday when the Prince visited
the bottle bank, nearly full
after just four weeks.

Empty bottles of an indiffer-
ent brandy, and Spanish white
wine were among the fine malt
whisky and Cognac sent sliding
down shutters into the skip. And
just to show that the Royal taste
has a simpler side there were
also empty Cinzano and beer
bottles among two cardboard
boxes dispatched by the royal
hand.

In case anyone got the wrong
impression that this was just
the morning quota of hard stuff
at the palace, Lieutenant-
Colonel Blair Stewart-Wilson,
assistant Master of the House-

hold, said: "We had to scratch
around and find them for the
occasion."

"If it makes sense to have
a skip here, it makes even more
sense to have one at Windsor
there," he added.

The Prince saw the advan-
tages of bottles being collected
and sent for recycling when he
visited the University of Wales,
in Cardiff, and saw research
being carried out. Mr Stephen
the Glass Manufacturers' Fed-
eration, explained: "The Prince
said they had the odd empty
at home, and could do with a
skip, and we are delighted that
ported his idea."

"It shows they are conserva-
tion-conscious. We are delighted
they are supporting it as the
palace must have a huge num-
ber of empties from all the
functions that take place
there."

The federation estimates that
700,000 people are taking bottles
and jars to skips so they can
be recycled. Most of the skips
are placed in shoppers' car
parks and then collected by
the local authorities who take
them to plants where the glass
materials and remade into con-
tainers.

Energy is saved during the
reworking process and local
authorities can also save be-
cause they do not have to pur-
chase waste disposal units for
glass.

Today-one special bottle will
be added to the pile at the
palace. "I should think that
the Queen and Duke of Edin-
burgh will have a bottle of wine
to celebrate the Duke's birth-
day today," Lieutenant-Colonel
Stewart-Wilson confided.

Researcher into PhD drop-outs urges supervision of their supervisors

By Diana Geddes

Education Correspondent
Supervisors of PhD students
should themselves be super-
vised by special academic com-
mittees and students wanting
to pursue postgraduate studies
should be required to spend at
least two years' between com-
pleting their first degrees and
starting a PhD course, Dr Er-
nest Rudd, Reader at Essex Uni-
versity, says.

The recommendations are two
of the main proposals on ways
to reduce the high drop-out or
non-completion rate among PhD
students put forward by Dr
Rudd in a report of the prelimi-
nary findings of his research
into the causes of dropping out.
He hopes to complete his re-
port by the autumn.

Recent surveys by the Social
Science and Science Research
councils have shown that even
among those students who have
been specially selected for re-
search council grants, two in
three in the social sciences and
one in three in the sciences
have still not completed their
degrees after five years. Grants
are awarded for a maximum of
three years.

More than £31m is being
spent on public funds this
year on maintenance grants for
15,000 postgraduate students.
That will rise next year to

£35m. The Commons Public
Accounts Committee is inquiry-
ing into whether that money is
being put to the best possible
use.

Dr Rudd, who interviewed
more than 100 PhD students
who had decided to abandon
their studies or who had been
taking "an inordinately long
time" to complete their de-
grees, said that he found sur-
prisingly little variation between
subjects in the reasons why
students drop out or take too
long. Almost always a combina-
tion of factors was involved.

Typically, a student had
chosen a topic that was too big
or too difficult for him to finish
in even four years; he had
failed to work out with his
supervisor a timetable for com-
pletion of stages of his
research; he had had a change
of supervisor and did not get
on with his new one; he finally
gave up when his marriage
broke down.

The pattern, with slight
variations, was found fairly
frequently, Dr Rudd says. He
believes that the key issue is
still the problem identified by
the Robbins Committee nearly
20 years ago of *Quis custodiet
ipsos custodes?* ("Who super-
vises the supervisors?")

The Robbins Committee re-
ported that its student survey

had "provided disquieting con-
firmation of a general impres-
sion that the universities do not
take their responsibilities for the
organization of post-
graduate study very seriously."

Too often only the supervisor
knew if the student was not
satisfactory, and only the stu-
dent knew if his supervisor was
unsatisfactory, Dr Rudd states.
He had many complaints about
the quality of supervision. If a
department was unable to pro-
vide a competent supervisor,
the student should be per-
suaded to apply elsewhere.

"Too often no one but the
student knows that, because
the supervisor's marriage is on
the rocks, or he is quietly hav-
ing a nervous breakdown, or
the student's topic is too far
from any subject he knows
much about, or he is an inex-
perienced or mediocre re-
searcher, or just not a very
good supervisor, the student is
not getting proper attention."

A supervisory committee
should be appointed which
would question the student
regularly on his progress and
offer advice to both the student
and his supervisor. That prac-
tice had already been adopted
by some American universities
and by one or two departments
in British universities.

Juror 'was offered £5,000 bribe'

From Our Correspondent

Edinburgh
A woman juror in a Dundee
corruption trial was offered a
£5,000 bribe to influence the
jury to return a verdict of not
guilty, a court hearing an appeal
in the High Court in Edinburgh,
were told yesterday.

The bribe, it was added, was
offered by a man who claimed
to be the brother of one of the
accused, John Maxwell, a
Dundee businessman, when he
called at the woman's home in
Edinburgh on the night the
trial ended.

The appeal, against sentence
and conviction, is by Thomas
Moore, former Lord Provost of
Dundee, James Stewart, a
former bailie, and Mr Maxwell.
They were found guilty by a
jury at the High Court in Edin-
burgh last March of corruption
charges and each was jailed for
five years.

While the juror told court
officials of the approach made
by the man Lord Kincaid
ordered that she be dismissed
from the jury.

Mr Charles Kemp Davidson,
QC, Dean of the Faculty of
Advocates, who appeared on
behalf of Mr Maxwell yester-
day, claimed that because the
woman had been approached
with a bribe and had been
allowed time by Lord Kincaid
to inform her fellow members
of the jury of the approach
before they returned a verdict,
a "substantial miscarriage of
justice had taken place."

Mr Kemp Davidson added
that the man, who has still not
been traced and who was a
stranger to the juror, had also
told her that two other mem-
bers of the jury had been
approached and had agreed to
influence the jury to return a
not guilty verdict.

Later, the police interviewed
each member of the jury after
the trial verdict was returned.
It was found that other mem-
bers of the jury denied that
they had been approached or
offered a bribe.

The appeal before Lord
Emslie, the Lord Justice
General, Lord Cameron and
Lord Kitchin is expected to
last for several days.

Inquest on burnt car couple leaves two questions

From Our Correspondent

Penzance
When an open verdict was
returned on a New Zealand
couple at an inquest at Pen-
zance yesterday two questions
remained unanswered: how did
one suffer a fractured jaw;
and what was the significance
of a length of vacuum cleaner
hose found at the rear of their
burnt-out white Renault car?

The severely burnt remains
of Mr Warwick Ernest Sand-
ham, aged 52, a retired chemist,
of Roberts Road, Pakuranga,
New Zealand, and his wife
Helen, aged 62, were found on
February 4 in the charred car
near Hell's Mouth, Camborne.

Mr Ronald Butler, deputy
coroner for west Cornwall, said
it was with some reluctance
that the only verdict he could
return was an open one. There
had been a long and pains-
taking investigation by the
police. Yet it was very difficult
to decide how they died.

Mr Sandham had a severe
fracture on the left side of the
jaw but the coroner was unable
to say how that had been
caused. It could have been done
by a bottle, or by an accident
in the car.

It could be that he was trying
to open the hatchback and it

hit him. The evidence gave no
solution. He eliminated suicide
and third party criminality of
violence with robbery. Accord-
ing to the evidence the couple
were having a wonderful time
on holiday.

Dr Albert Hunt, pathologist,
said: "They were more burnt
than any bodies I have ever
seen in a burnt car. The man
died of burns; but he could
not tell whether the woman
was dead when the fire started."

Mr Thomas Crewe, consultant
oral surgeon at Greenbank
hospital, Plymouth, said there
was a double fracture of Mr
Sandham's jaw. It could have
been done by a blow or fall. It
was the sort of accident one
could get in a road accident;
but it also could have been done
by the fist of a very strong man.

Dr Geoffrey Whistace, senior
scientific officer at the Home
Office forensic science labora-
tory at Chesham, said that
lying on the ground at the rear
of the car was a partly burnt
length of vacuum cleaner hose.
He said: "In my opinion the
degree and intensity of burning
strongly suggested that an ac-
celerator such as petrol had
been scattered inside the vehicle
and the engine compartment,
then ignited."

Blackmail case may go on with 11 jurors

A juror in the trial of a
woman, aged 36, who is said to
have demanded £8,000 from her
lover, aged 63, was taken ill
during the night. Mr Justice
Griffiths, said at Exeter Crown
Court yesterday.

He said that if the juror was
unable to return, he was likely
to direct that the trial continue
with 11 jurors.

The jury were finishing read-
ing through letters as their
first task on the second day of
the trial of Mrs Jeanne Ellett,
of West Field Close, Comey-
trow Lane, Taunton, Somerset.
She has denied making an
unwarranted demand with
menaces from her lover, identi-
fied only as Mr X.

Guidance for occupational doctors on what to disclose

By Annabel Ferriman

Health Services Correspondent
Doctors in industry normally
should not tell the management
that an employee is suffering
from alcoholism, depression or
any other mental or physical
disorder, a report said yester-
day.

The report, published by the
recently formed Faculty of
Occupational Medicine of the
Royal College of Physicians,
says that occupational doctors
should confine their remarks to
whether an employee is fit or
unfit for his job.

Only if the safety of other
workers or the public is
threatened should a doctor dis-
close clinical details to the
employer and he should try to
obtain the patient's permission
first.

Refusal in practice is rare,
provided the physician has
taken sufficient time and care
to explain why disclosure is
necessary," the report says.

Dr Peter Taylor, vice dean of
the faculty and one of the
authors of the report, said
yesterday that the most obvious
example would be where an em-
ployee who drove a bus or a
heavy goods vehicle, developed
epilepsy. "Then the authorities

and his employer would have
to be told," he said.

Occupational doctors are also
told in the report that em-
ployers are required under the
Health and Safety at Work Act,
1974, to disclose information
they may have about processes
which are a risk to health. If
they show any reluctance to do
so, the doctor should remind
them of their responsibilities.

Only if the management re-
fuses to disclose such informa-
tion should the doctor consider
telling other doctors who may
need to know about harmful
effects. The doctor's responsi-
bility for workers exposed to
hazards should take precedence
over the management's refusal
to disclose.

"However, he would be wise
to seek the views of other
senior occupational physicians
before taking further action."

If the introduction of a new
process leads to ill effects, that
should be carefully explained
to the workers involved while
the nature of the hazard is
being investigated.

Guidance on Ethics for Occu-
pational Physicians (Faculty of
Occupational Medicine, Royal
College of Physicians, St Andrew's
Place, London NW1 5L).



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think you're
lord of all
you survey?

It may be tempting from your
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nal tests of new drugs 'unscientific'

Health Services

dent
the animal tests de-
government authori-
the introduction of
line are unscientific
essary, a report pub-
by the Office of
conomics says.

reactions to certain
th as the heart medi-
ol, marketed under
name Eraldin, appear
the drug is used by

no amount of animal
for introduction
he predicted the fact
uld in some cases on
patients", the report

langer is that by un-
ely demanding the in-
te application of these

test procedures, the regulatory
bodies may have been stifling
valuable innovation."

The report, written by Pro-
fessor George Teeling-Smith,
director of the office, which is
financed by the pharmaceutical
industry, says that unbalanced
public attitudes to safety issues
are another threat to innova-
tion.

The 400 to 500 children who
suffered from the drug thali-
domide were given continuous
and recurrent publicity. Yet
it was rarely pointed out that
the lives of more than 250,000
children had been saved since
the 1940s as a result of modern
medicines.

"That is more than 500
child lives saved for each
thalidomide victim", it says.

New drugs and vaccinations
had reduced the child death
rate from tuberculosis, dip-
theria, pneumonia, meningitis,
rheumatic fever, scarlet fever
and whooping cough.

It suggests that improved
surveillance of the use of new
medicines could reduce future
risks and recommends a cen-
trally-financed scheme to com-
pensate the victims of drug
side-effects if strict liability is
introduced in this country.

Stricter liability holds a manu-
facturer responsible for any
harm a new drug does, even if
he has not been negligent.

A Question of Balance: the bene-
fits and risks of pharmaceutical
innovation. Office of Health
Economics, 162 Regent Street,
London W1R 6DD, £1.50.

WEST EUROPE



President Giscard d'Estaing inaugurates the newly-restored bedroom of Louis XIV at Versailles.

Splendour of Louis XIV bedroom recreated

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, June 10

The newly restored bedroom of Louis XIV, at Versailles, was inaugurated yesterday by President Giscard d'Estaing.

The President may have recalled the king's words as he died to the Dauphin: "My child, you will be a great king. Do not emulate my taste for building or for war. Try to be the contrary to keep the peace with your neighbours." That was in 1715.

Now, the bedroom, that tabernacle of the French monarchy, it has been said, has

been restored as near as possible to its original splendour, thanks to M. Gerd van der Kemp, the Chief Curator of the palace for 17 years, and his successor, M. Pierre Lemoine, to a number of American and other benefactors, and to State funds.

The ruins and misery left by the Sun King's wars are long forgotten. What has survived is Versailles, violently criticized even in his day for its cost and extravagance and which has come to symbolize French taste and elegance. With more than three and a half million visitors a year, it is one of the most

popular attractions. That alone was enough to justify spending 139m francs (about £14m) of public money on its restoration over the past 10 years.

Once the building had been renovated, M. van der Kemp and his staff recreated the atmosphere of the state apartments of the palace as it was under the Ancien Régime.

A few years ago the Queen's bedroom was restored to the condition it was in when Marie Antoinette left Versailles for the last time. This year, it was the turn of the king's bedroom and the Hall of Mirrors. M. van der Kemp saw to it that all the

clocks in the state apartments were working, and now their crystal tones fill the gorgeous décor of gold, silver, marble, and precious fabrics with a host of illustrious ghosts from the troubled past of the old monarchy.

The king's bedroom has been restored to the state in which it was in 1725, after Louis XV came back to live in Versailles.

Here, until 1789, beat the heart of the French nation. And now, with a sort of otherworldliness, for never has the monarchy seemed so splendid as under the Republic, it beats again.

Boon promises to help Madrid curb terrorism

From Our Correspondent

Madrid, June 10

Herr Gerhard Baul, the West German Interior Minister said here today that his country will step up its cooperation with Spain in the fight against terrorism.

The minister made his remarks at the end of a two-day official visit.

Yesterday, he attended a tactical exercise at Valdemoro, near here, in which members of a special para-military Civil Guard unit took part.

Britain supports Spain for EEC

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain will support the candidacy of Spain and Portugal for membership of the European Community on the present timetable, without further delay, it was confirmed in London yesterday.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, are expected to make their views quite clear, that enlargement of the Community is desirable on political grounds, when the heads of tomorrow and Friday.

In Lord Carrington's view, the question of enlargement must be seen on two levels, the political first and the economic second. Recent remarks by President Giscard d'Estaing, and to a lesser extent Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, placed greater emphasis on the economic difficulties of admitting Spain and Portugal, who hope to join by 1983.

The feeling in the Community was that countries that shared the democratic and social objectives of the Nine should be encouraged to

become members, that meant that they welcomed Spain and Portugal, and also Greece, Lord Carrington said in an interview with the Brussels newspaper *Le Soir*. But the economic problems posed by the accession, particularly for French farmers.

This was why the most important point about the British budget agreement, Lord Carrington said, was the understanding next year to discuss restructuring the Community budget. France and Germany now felt there had to be a "rethink" of the budget and of the financial arrangements of the Community, and the British settlement had accelerated this.

Indeed, Mrs Thatcher will not approach the summit in any spirit of penitence after the budget dispute. Her advisers believe that by acting as she did she has strengthened the Community. The future operation of the budget is no longer an exclusively British concern, but a European objective.

On the main international question of the agenda, the so-called European initiative on the Middle East, the British Government has narrowed its

original aims, and is now seeking a more modest declaration of policy.

As Britain sees it, the objective is simply to keep the momentum going, to fill the vacuum likely to be caused by the American presidential election, in the hope that by early next year the Europeans and the Americans can find a way of carrying the peace process forward together.

It is being emphasized in Whitehall that there is no question of the Community proposing a new resolution in the Security Council or adding to the existing ones on the Middle East at this stage; and no question of recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, representative of the Palestinians.

On the contrary, the British Government, so it is said, supports the Camp David process and wishes it well. But one way of keeping the momentum going would be to make contact with all the parties concerned in a settlement. If the summit chooses to bring the PLO into these consultations, the British Government will no doubt give its assent, notwithstanding Israeli objections.

Herr Brandt asks Germans to exercise will for peace

Continued from page 1

"The agricultural policy of the European Community must be reformed from top to bottom, fewer subsidies which fall like a warm rain on great and small."

He called on the SPD's economic committee, its European parliamentarians and agricultural experts to devise a plan for reform, "and not just any time but in the coming months."

"I do not want to give any one illusions," he went on. "A policy which has developed and to a great extent developed badly over 25 years can only be corrected step by step. And joint corrections are not easy in view of the different interests in the community."

"But precisely for this reason we must begin in the autumn with a firm stage by stage plan for the future. Europe must not shy away from conflict."

Herr Brandt, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his Ostpolitik, called, amid loud applause, for "not less, but more détente."

Germans, he said, were not the conscience of the world and much less a world fire brigade. "But we must be courageous, strong and influential enough to exercise our will for peace everywhere, no matter how small the chance of success."

The party's Ostpolitik and good relations with eastern Europe had made the continent "the central area of stability and security in the world."

Earlier, the congress had accepted with an ease and speed that astonished party officials themselves, the Chancellor's defence policy, which many left wingers dislike. Although numerous amendments had been tabled to water down the party's support of the Nato decision to station and deploy medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe, no one came forward to defend them and the question was passed with only a handful of votes against.

Party officials had only one explanation for this uncharacteristic submission—the fact that they face elections in four months.

Leading article, page 17.

Kidnap attempt foiled by Spanish MP

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, June 10

An MP from the ruling Democratic Union thwarted a kidnap attempt and wounded one of his assailants, police in Orense said today.

Two men and a woman entered the home of Señor Eulogio Gómez Fraqueira, in the town of Razaamora, near Orense, under the pretence of making a telephone call. Inside, they held members of the family and a family friend at gunpoint, demanding 20m pesetas (£123,000).

One of his children offered himself as a hostage in order to allow him time to try to gather the ransom, but the group refused.

Three more people, armed and hooded, entered the house. One accompanied Señor Gómez Fraqueira to his bedroom, apparently seeking for weapons. He found a shotgun, which was removed. The MP picked up a pistol which the attacker had failed to find, and shot him.

Italy ponders on Socialist gains

From Peter Nichols
Rome, June 10

Most political commentators here agree that the most important point about Italy's regional elections was the increase of less than 1 per cent in the Socialist Party's share of the vote.

This might seem a modest change on which to base many of the morning's principal headlines. But it has a certain glint of fascination unlike any other element in a largely dull but virtuous result. The outcome is such that practically every party is quite understandably expressing satisfaction.

In particular, the three partners in Signor Francesco Cossiga's coalition feel reinforced, and so the Government should be able to face the Venice summit later this month as well as internal problems with a greater sense of assurance.

The Communist threat to arrange the Prime Minister before Parliament to answer allegations that he helped a presumed terrorist to escape appears to have had no effect. Signor Cossiga's Christian Democratic Party made a modest advance of 1.7 per cent. The Communists were expected to lose and did so slightly by comparison with the last

regional elections in 1975 but they too, felt that they had their ground reasonably well and avoided the losses being predicted for them. They held their 1975 gains in the big cities.

They agree they did badly in the underdeveloped south but the expected that. And that brings one back to the performance of the Socialists, the second biggest party in the coalition, and third, after the Christian Democrats and Communists, in Parliament. Their 0.7 per cent increase, giving them 12.7 per cent of the total vote, is being delicately scrutinized.

When Signor Cossiga formed his administration two months ago he managed to persuade the Socialists to return to government after an absence of six years. This gave the Government its own parliamentary majority without help, direct or indirect, from the Communists.

In part, it explained why the Communists maintained throughout the campaign that the government must be brought down while at the same time they strongly attacked the decision of the Socialists to take ministries without formal or informal agreements with the Communists.

Signor Bettino Craxi, the Socialist leader, had difficulty within his own party about the decision to enter the coalition, but he can now point to the success of having stopped an erosion of the Socialist vote.

Five years ago the Communists were at the height of their power and the Socialists low in their fortunes. The relationship is now regarded as different. The Socialists have found signs of a new strength in Government: the Communists have not found similar signs in opposition.

The Christian Democrats can hardly take the results as a *corte marte* to go on as before. As a Western diplomat remarked this morning: "The results are helpful but it depends whether the Christian Democrats and Socialists make good use of them."

All the old problems are still there. They are a little clearer, perhaps, in the light of that 0.7 per cent increase by the Socialists, which has made such an impression that it could be taken to give Signor Craxi the right, as one headline puts it, to ask for the post of Prime Minister to go to a Socialist. Needless obviously have their weight here.

Leading article, page 17

OVERSEAS

Rebellion in Pacific spreads to new island

From Denis Reinhardt
Port Vila, New Hebrides, June 10

The authorities have fear of a takeover by rebels of the island after late night police reports from Tanna stating that about 1,000 supporters of the John Van Cargu Cult Movement have assembled at their Sulfur Bay headquarters on the island's east coast.

Member of the Cargu Cult are so called because of the habit of islanders during the Second World War to worship the wrecks of crashed cargo aircraft.

Father Walter Lini, the chief minister, was summoned to Port Vila police headquarters from his home tonight to hear radio reports from Tanna's township of Isangel.

Twenty-two police, including 10 members of the Special Constabulary (Police Mobile Unit) or riot squad are on the island. Mr Andrew Stuart, the British Resident, and his French counterpart, Inspector General Jacques Robert, who share responsibility for the condominium's security, agreed to send their deputies to assess the situation.

Mr Chris Turner, the British Chief Secretary, and Jean Peres, the French Chief Secretary, are to be accompanied by the PMU commander.

Mr Turner returned only yesterday from Tanna, on the secessionist-held island of Espiritu Santo, where he had been investigating reports of mob attacks on evacuees' cars and schools.

He found that the vehicles had been disabled by systematic removal of electrical parts to a group of A (Special Intervention Force) to join the British PMU if the deputies' assessment "makes it necessary."

After discussions with Father Lini and Mr Stuart, the French Resident has agreed to send his prior force of 150 (Special Intervention Force) to join the British PMU if the deputies' assessment "makes it necessary."

Fear of night: Mr Jimmy Nelson, head of police at Port Vila, said the situation on Tanna was very tense. The men had started gathering near the police station.

"But I think they are unlikely to attack tonight because most of them are afraid of the dark," he said.—Agence France-Presse.

Salisbury asks Britain for much more financial aid

From Our Own Correspondent
Salisbury, June 10

Zimbabwe has asked Britain for a substantial increase in financial assistance to help buy land on which to settle refugees, displaced persons and people living in overcrowded tribal areas.

The request was made during talks in London last week between British Government ministers and a Zimbabwe delegation led by Mr Enos Nkala, the Minister of Finance.

Britain has already committed itself to a £75m aid programme over the next three years.

Mr Nkala, who has just returned from London, told *The Times* today that the cost of the resettlement programme was estimated at about £670m, although he would not say how much he had asked for in London but said he had been told that Britain could not meet his request. However Britain had undertaken to discuss ways of raising additional funds.

Blacks confront Mr Carter in Miami in angriest show of opposition to his administration

From David Cross
Washington, June 10

After what was probably the angriest demonstration against his presidency in Miami yesterday, Mr Carter travelled west last night to the calmer atmosphere of Washington state where American mayors are holding one of their regular conferences.

The President had gone to Miami to discuss with community leaders, businessmen and officials how the Administration could help to rebuild the area of the city devastated in last month's racial riots.

When he came out of the meeting he was confronted by demonstrators, some carrying signs reading: "Hail to the Black Racist" and "Mr Peanut Man, we need more than peanuts." Mr Carter was greeted with boos and jeers. He waved briefly to the crowd before getting into his car.

As he left, bottles were thrown at the convoy of cars and one hit a photographer in the crowd.

Mr Carter said later that he had not noticed the demonstration. He had had a "good day" in Miami, he said, adding that he thought the city leaders were

determined to correct the problems that led to the riots.

Resentment against Mr Carter had been building up before he arrived in Miami. Black leaders in the city were upset that he had not gone there earlier and condemned his decision to travel instead last month to Mount St Helens, the erupting volcano in Washington state.

Indeed, the President's reputation among blacks generally is at a very low ebb. After meeting Mr Carter at the White House yesterday morning, black members of Congress said they came away "with a feeling of real disappointment."

One said that he thought Mr Carter failed to understand fully "the intensity of the situation that we find in all our districts and indeed throughout the entire United States."

During the encounter Mr Carter was apparently told that blacks might desert him in the election unless he changed his economic policies.

Controversy pursued the President from Miami to Seattle, where he was to deliver a speech to the conference of mayors. Senator Edward Kennedy, his rival for the

crucial presidential hour was also to address the today, but after press the White House, the or of the conference cancelled.

According to Mr Carter, the Republican of Peoria, Illinois, a man of the conference, Mr Carter was the accept an invitation to Senator Kennedy to speak only two days

Mr Carter added that informed the White about the proposed ad Senator Kennedy out. Mr Carter's "ai- rousness" by saying th "unacceptable" in their for the President to the same day as the i he said. He had sug change of date to Mr but he had declined.

Mr Kennedy will be remaining contender presidency not to ad conference. Mr Ronald the Hilly Republican and Mr John Anden expects to run as an dent in November. Seattle on Sunday an day.

Albanians sentenced after protests in Yugoslavia

From Dassa Trevisan
Belgrade, June 10

Prison sentences ranging from three to eight years have been passed on eight people, all ethnic Albanians from the Yugoslav autonomous region of Kosovo, for what the newspapers described as hostile activities against the state.

The announcement, which was given the minimum publicity, is the first confirmation that a group of Albanians have been tried for what seems to be nationalist demonstrations organized last year.

Two months ago, a Yugoslav newspaper disclosed that more than 50 people, all of them Albanians, would go on trial for subversive activities which included extremist organizations and other political dissent.

The report, however, provoked a sharp rebuke by the party leader of the region, Mr Mahmud Bekishi, who confirmed

that some arrests had been made but insisted on playing down the incident.

Today's announcement suggests that the Yugoslav authorities have decided to drop the charges against many of the people who were rounded up last year and who, according to newspaper reports, had been under police investigation two months ago.

The trial received little publicity, which has been the practice with trials of this kind for some time. Thus, apart from giving the sentences and the charges today's report does not disclose what the defendants alleged to be guilty of, nor does it give details of the proceedings.

According to rumours which circulated at the time, the nationalist demonstrations took place in several villages and concentrated mainly around secondary schools.

E Germany to try Unesco

Berlin, June 10

many today confine had arrested Herr Pe a senior East German official, and said he accused of spying for Germany's intelligence.

A spokesman for d Ministry said that H head of Unesco's cul- ture division, was suspected of treason (with a fore- section) and serious of Democratic Republic.

Last Friday the 1 executive board official tested to East Ger the arrest of Herr was deemed while to East Berlin is complaining that the man action violated i status as a United N al and protested refusal to provide i on the case.

The Foreign Minis man, questioning from a test to the Unesco. Herr Stolz would i with "long-term ac- the West German fe- ligence service."

The East German would inform Unes results on their in into Herr Stolz's alle a soon as possible.

In response to Ur tests, it added "suc- as those in the cas Stolz are incompati work of an in official."

"Unesco was told th be 'unhelpful' to u. of the east, and the public, a clear reje- organization's deman information on the

The spokesman co- when Herr Stolz was tried.

On Friday the Un- said it had initially sent Herr Stolz has been arrested and is in East Berlin. But senior of west to East Berlin had been refused pe- see him.—Reuter.

After years of war bored fighters must learn to live without weapons

Zimbabwe sets about disciplining guerrillas

From Nicholas Ashford
Arcurus, June 10

Last weekend an elderly black worker on a white-owned farm near the mining town, east of Salisbury, was beaten to death after being "sentenced" by a kangaroo court. His crime was to have stolen two chickens from his fellow workers, an offence that in peasant guerrillas who had become accustomed to living by the gun during seven years of fighting. For many, the ending of the war has meant not only giving up their weapons—symbols of manliness and their role in the armed struggle—but having to contend with long hours of boredom.

The area around Arcurus has been particularly affected by incidents involving former guerrillas or, in some cases, young men posing as Zanla

fighters. Zanu (PF) has acquired two farms in the area on which it has settled more than 2,000 former guerrillas. Some are involved in light agricultural duties but for many there is little to do except listen to the radio or talk.

Soon after the first guerrillas moved here and not long before independence, an elderly white couple were attacked and badly injured. As the police failed to intervene in matters involving Zanla, Mr Rex Nkhomo, the guerrilla commander had to be called in to deal the riot area.

There have been other incidents since then. One guerrilla was shot dead by police outside the local store after the white owner had telephoned for help. Several farmers' wives have been supposed at roadblocks and almost every farm in the region has had visits by Zanla men who want to inspect the premises and talk to the farm workers.

However, the most serious incidents have involved fights between the guerrillas and farm

and mine workers. Zanla men have been beaten when they interfere with workers in pounds. Only yesterday guerrillas narrowly being beaten to dis- workers after the 1 farm owner had into.

The Zanu (PF) aware of the tension, the sudden influx of the area, and impose more order o farms. Most of the been disarmed an visited one farm e was not a desper- Comrade Khumalo appointed commander the farms, has said prepared to coopera police to establish order. When the go him after the dead, he was promised a three men who took kangaroo court. Ac- tion parade was bei the farm today.

still pretty nervous farmer said, "but it does seem to be getti

bles ba

the Games

Crackdown before Soweto anniversary

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg, June 10

More than 1,000 people have been arrested and at least 150 summoned to appear in court in what appears to be a large operation by the South African police to stifle demonstrations on June 16 marking the anniversary of the Soweto riots four years ago.

The authorities are planning to deal with unrest which could begin on June 16. The 1976 riots resulted in more than 600 deaths across the country.

Today a Johannesburg black newspaper, *Post*, reported that 1,270 people had been arrested at roadblocks and a further 167 summoned to appear in court as a result of a police opera-

tion carried out over the last four days.

A police spokesman said it was a normal crime prevention exercise and that soldiers involved in manning the roadblocks were on routine manoeuvres "under the command of the police."

Among those detained is Mr Paul David, an engineering student at the Indian university of Durban-Westville, who has also identified himself as secretary of the local Release Mandela committee. He has instigated moves in the Durban area in the campaign to demand the release of Mr Nelson Mandela, the African National Congress (ANC) leader, who is reaching his

sixteenth year of imprisonment on Robben Island, in Table Bay.

The clamour for his release has been taken up by the thousands of coloured school-children who have been boycotting classes for the last eight weeks. His release is becoming a rallying point for millions of South African blacks who have no other form of political expression.

The situation is being exploited by the Soviet-backed ANC, whose guerrillas recently blew up two storage tanks at Sasolburg, near Johannesburg. The authorities are awaiting the Soweto anniversary with trepidation, wondering what is going to be blown up next.

Royal Marine captain wins bravery award

A Royal Marine won a bravery award "for courage and fortit- held hostage for three hours by Pan forces, during the ceasefire monitoring. Captain Nick Bey Plymouth, won th Commendation for duc for his action "audacity in the fa- impressed th Front."

Lieutenant David Prince of Wales' Own Regiment, also won da- tion

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For your convenience there is a PREPOST Reply Coupon on Page 7.

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Israel alarmed by first sniper attack on patrol in Jerusalem

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, June 10

In one of the most serious terrorist incidents in east Jerusalem since the Arab sector was annexed 13 years ago, an Israeli border policeman was shot and seriously wounded today by an Arab sniper firing from a position high on the sixteenth-century walls which surround the old city.

The attack was believed to be the first aimed directly at an Israeli patrol in the Arab sector. It came closely after the recent dangerous escalation of tension between Jews and Arabs in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

According to an Israeli police spokesman, shots were fired at a three-man patrol of border police when they were close to the historic Herods Gate. One policeman was hit in the stomach and taken to hospital for an emergency operation. He was later reported to be off the danger list.

The ambush caused serious concern to the Israeli security authorities who have recently issued warnings about the increasing skills of the Palestinian terrorist groups operating inside Israel.

Recent figures showed that over the past year, the number of terrorist attacks inside the country have almost doubled, while those against Israeli targets abroad have dropped.

Last week militant Palestinian spokesmen in Beirut said that attacks against Israeli targets would be stepped up in retaliation for the bomb attacks in the West Bank earlier this month which seriously injured two Palestinian mayors.

After today's attack, a big security operation was mounted

in the area which is popular with foreign tourists hunting for bargains and visiting Jerusalem's holy sites. Between 80 and 100 Arabs were detained for questioning and shops in the vicinity shut down.

Local Palestinian sources explained that tension in east Jerusalem has increased significantly since the heavy-handed methods used by the Israelis last week to prevent Palestinian shopkeepers from staging a protest strike. More than 200 Arab merchants were rounded up in night raids and served with writs which forced them to open for business.

The Israeli authorities have long regarded terrorism inside the city limits of Jerusalem as being more serious than attacks in the occupied territories.

Tonight there are fears in political circles that the latest incident may herald a new wave of attacks designed to highlight Palestinian rejection of Government claims that Jerusalem is now the "indivisible" capital of Israel.

Earlier today, two Palestinian bombs exploded in the town of Petah Tiqva, near Tel Aviv, but there were no injuries or damage. The Israeli security forces again rounded up large numbers of local Arabs for questioning.

Responsibility claimed: Palestinian guerrillas have claimed responsibility for the bomb attacks in Petah Tiqva and said the explosions killed or wounded many Israelis, the Palestinian news agency, Wafa, said. They also claimed responsibility for ambushing the foot patrol in Jerusalem. — Reuters and UPI.

Feuding puts Iranian revolution in crisis

From Tony Alloway
Tehran, June 10

Ayatollah Khomeini today warned Iranians that internal feuding was posing the greatest danger to the future of the revolution.

If the situation continued, he said, there would be anarchy and Iran would once again be dominated by the United States or Soviet Union.

As the political battle continued, so too did the now almost daily round of mass executions. The state radio announced that the special anti-drugs court of Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali had sent 10 more people before the firing squad in Tehran this morning on unspecified charges.

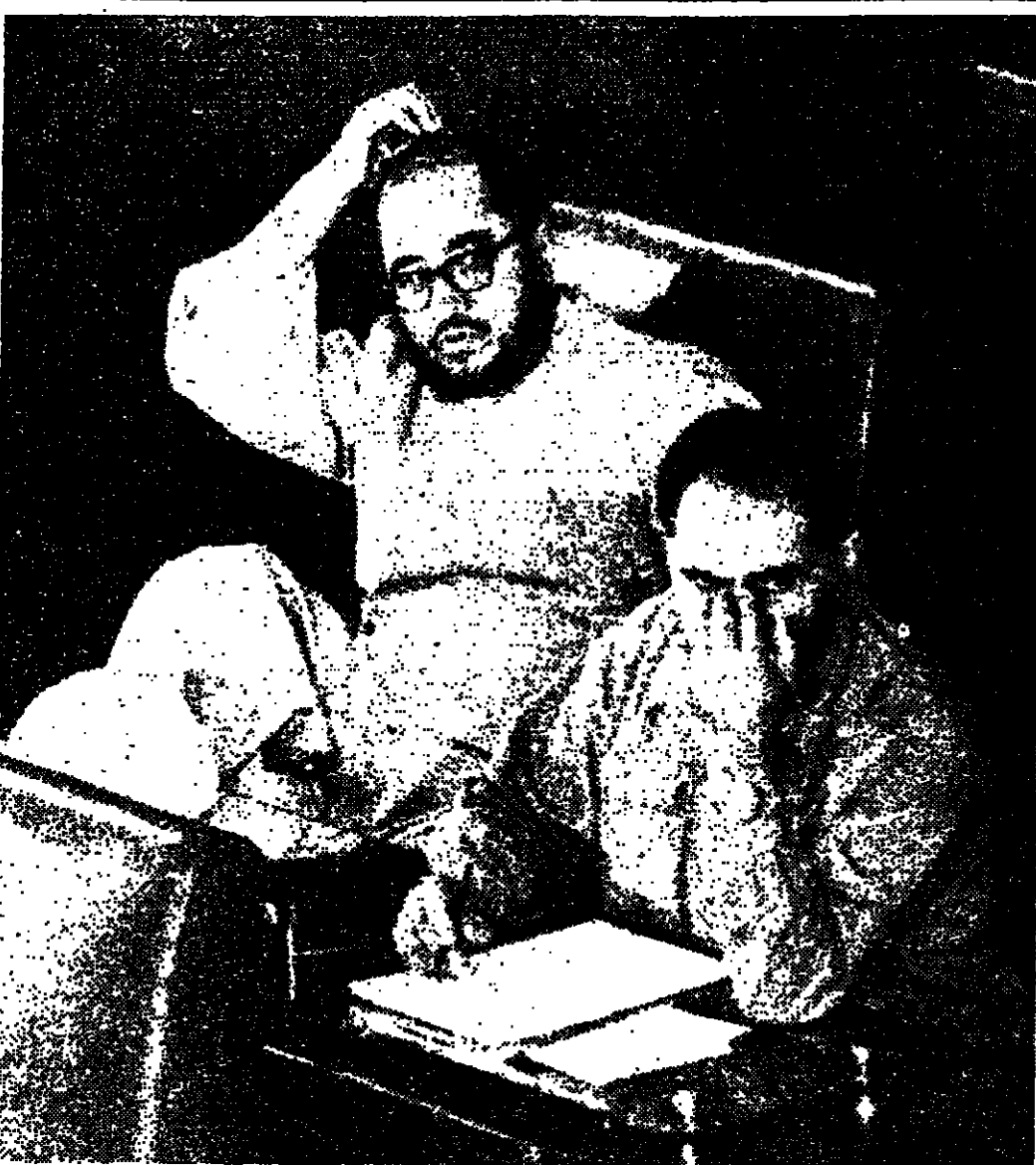
Another six were also executed in Tehran's Evin prison this morning on charges ranging from armed robbery to crushing revolutionaries during the rule of the Shah.

One of them was Mr Yusuf Sobhani, the former managing director of the Zamzam company, holder of the Pepsi-Cola and Schweppes soft drinks franchise.

The execution of the drugs offenders brought the total of executions ordered by Ayatollah Khalkhali's court since it began work in the middle of last month to 78.

Ayatollah Khomeini, speaking during a meeting with the governors-general of the provinces, made no specific reference to particular groups or individuals, but key phrases indicated that one of the disputes uppermost in his mind was that between President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr and his rivals in the Islamic Republican Party over who should run the country.

Death squad: Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali, who claims to have



Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali, during a session of the Iranian Parliament yesterday.

ordered more than 300 executions, said he had sent a squad to Paris to kill Mr Shapour Bakhtiar, the former Prime Minister, and his followers (Reuters reports).

In an interview with the English-speaking Teheran Times, Iran's roving Islamic judge also said that if President Carter came to Iran "we will definitely prosecute him and I'll be the judge in the case".

Ayatollah Khalkhali last December said that he had ordered a death squad to Panama to kill the former Shah, who was living there at the time. For the past few weeks, Ayatollah Khalkhali has been spearheading a drive against alleged narcotics dealers. Eighty have already been executed.

California keeps cancer drug banned

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles, June 10

Although 22 states in America already allow the use of Laetrile, the substance produced from apricots and used, amid scientific controversy, as a treatment for cancer, the drug is still illegal in California.

Yesterday, for the fourth time, a Bill to legitimise Laetrile and which was supported by Mr Jerry Brown, the Governor, was defeated by a single vote by the legislative health committee in Sacramento.

Mr William Campbell, the state Republican senator who put forward the Bill, said he would try again later this year. He described his measure as an attempt to give cancer victims "freedom of choice in health care which is a basic human right".

The use of Laetrile in cancer treatment has been a contentious issue in the United States, especially in California. Many claim that terminally ill patients have been helped by the drug, but most doctors in California oppose the use of Laetrile and argue that it is ineffective, if not harmful.

As a result of the ban, hundreds of cancer patients cross the Mexican border to Tijuana each week for doses of Laetrile at a string of clinics that have sprung up.

The American National Cancer Institute is conducting a study of the drug to evaluate its efficacy.

One Californian politician who opposed the measure said: "I am concerned that if we legitimise Laetrile people throughout the country will think it's a cure for cancer. I want to err on the side of caution."

I promise on last 10 Bank settlements

From Leapman
June 10

Mr Begin, the Minister, said in an interview today that the West Bank settlements would be the last. He owed by satellite on a breakfast-time radio here.

In a combative mood to respond to his settlement policy yesterday by Mr Begin, the Secretary of Defense had concluded that the final status of the West Bank would be decided in a reference plan for 10 more years.

At a batch of settlements in the West Bank, Mr Begin said. "This of our settlement will only enlarge the present situation of the present settlement."

seemed needed by the criticism. "I, friend Mr Begin, said that statement settlements would have

given me a hearing", he said. "If the Secretary of State had invited me to come to Washington for a talk on settlements I would have dropped everything and come to Washington."

He became further irritated when the interviewer put to him the suggestion that his policy on settlements had encouraged the climate of violence on the West Bank leading to the attacks on the Arab mayors.

He pointed out that he had pledged his Government to finding and prosecuting the attackers, which no Arab leader had ever done with respect to Arab terrorists who attacked Jews.

Yesterday an Administration official offered to send a medical team to treat the two injured mayors or to allow them to come to America for treatment. One of the mayors, Mr Bassam al Shaku of Nablus, lost both legs and is suffering from gangrene. The other, Mr Karin Khalef of Ramallah, lost part of a foot.

Shamir warns Europe 1st support for PLO

From Hornsby
June 10

Mr Shamir also said that EEC recognition of Palestinian self-determination would be taken by the Arabs as endorsement of the Palestinian claim to an independent state. Such a state could only "be a basis of aggression against Israel supported by the Soviet block."

EEC heads of government are expected to state publicly for the first time, in Venice, that the PLO should be associated with the Middle East negotiations but plans for sponsoring an amendment of Resolution 242 have been shelved for the time being.

Mr Shamir was unrepentant in his defence of the Israeli policy of expanding Jewish settlements on the West Bank in spite of strong criticism from Europeans and Americans.

"Israel can never withdraw to the pre-1967 frontiers," he said. "There must continue to be an Israeli civilian presence in Judea and Samaria (the West Bank) and in Gaza. The establishment of kibbutzim and villages is the expression of that presence. This is not in contradiction with Camp David or the autonomy plan."

Individual athletes banned 1 Olympic Games

From McGregor
June 10

The executive board of the International Olympic Committee, led by Lord Killanin, today agreed to the rules for improving the Moscow Games.

After 10 days of discussions, which some arguments forward in favour of options "for the sake of the board concluded that the Olympic movement take precedence to repair the damage done to the role of the games by the countries objecting to the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia.

fully aware of the disappointment caused by who have given years of their lives to the Olympic Games, the decision that individual athletes from boycotting countries will not be allowed to

compete, even if they arrive in Moscow.

The board has also rejected proposals that team entries from those countries be accepted for the games under the mantle of the international federations for the various sports. The Japanese in particular had been hoping to have their volleyball team in Moscow.

The board has also said that no sanctions will be directed against national contingents, teams or individuals who have accepted the invitation to Moscow, but who may now be having second thoughts.

Invasion depicted: The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan was the result of the decision to go ahead with the new European nuclear weapons. Mr Eric Heffer, a prominent member of the left-dominated Labour national executive committee, said last night.

"I cannot be an accident that one week after the Nato decision was taken, Soviet tanks rolled into Afghanistan," Mr Heffer told a meeting in Richmond, Surrey.

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OVERSEAS



Mr Brezhnev with Soviet cosmonaut Valery Kubasov (right) and Bertalan Farkas, the first Hungarian cosmonaut, after presenting both with the Order of Lenin, and Captain Farkas with the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

Soviet letters indicate rigours of Afghan war

Moscow, June 10.—A Russian soldier's wife writes to her man in Afghanistan: "We know you must be having a hard time of it. May our love help you vanquish them."

The letter was carried in *Pravda*, and it is typical of the official line that has lately succeeded earlier optimistic press accounts of the intervention in Afghanistan, when the emphasis was on victory and the photographs showed beaming Red Army "liberators" in the field.

Victory and "liberation", it is recognized, have yet to be achieved, and no secret is made of the fact that the Soviet forces in Afghanistan are indeed having a hard time of it.

"The bandits are destroying whole villages", Tass reported in a dispatch on June 2. The Afghan insurgents were well trained, Tass said. "They have been through camps where the instructors are American, Chinese, or Pakistani."

Five days ago *Pravda* was again reporting frequent clashes between the Afghan Army and the insurgents, with much detail about ambushes and road mines.

Meanwhile, the tone of rumours circulating here is mainly gloomy and apprehensive. There is talk of soldiers returning with accounts of atrocities committed by the Afghan

fighters against Russian prisoners.

In official quarters the difficulties of the Afghan campaign are being guardedly mentioned, if only to emphasize the need to keep Soviet troops there. Observers, however, are agreed that this new tone does not signify a mood of concession in the Soviet leadership.

In a June 5 dispatch, Tass declared that "the continued American interference (in Afghanistan) is making a settlement of the crisis increasingly difficult."

Speaking on television on May 31, Mr Leonid Zamyatin, a prominent Politburo member, declared: "Without our intervention in Afghanistan last

December we would today have a hostile state on our southern frontier." The interview was repeated last weekend.

Those who have met Mr Brezhnev lately report that the Kremlin's position on Afghanistan has not changed in the past six months. As one Western diplomat said: "The Kremlin doesn't mess around. When a decision has been taken it is applied to the bitter end."

The only reference in Moscow to a possible withdrawal from Afghanistan is the joke "Our army will be leaving Afghanistan in two waves—the first via Iran, the second via Pakistan." — Agence France-Press.

One summer could make a Canadian constitution

From John Best
Ottawa, June 10

Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister and the 10 provincial premiers are to tackle Canada's constitutional problems through a series of meetings in the summer. Success could lead to Mr Trudeau's retirement.

The strategy was agreed when they met here yesterday.

Mr Trudeau persuaded his colleagues to think through a series of priority items hanging over a new constitution for Canada.

These will be examined by federal-provincial committees of ministers and officials. Three weeks with a fourth being available, have been set aside for bargaining, starting on July 7. The success or otherwise will be judged when Mr Trudeau and the provincial premiers meet again in September.

Mr Trudeau said failure to

find a large measure of agreement would have "very serious consequences".

If on the other hand agreement on the fundamentals of a new constitution is achieved, the federal government would be free to retire from politics.

The Prime Minister and other federalist spokesmen offered constitutional reform as an alternative to Quebec voters in their successful campaign to reject the separatist Quebec Government's referendum on sovereignty-association last month.

Yesterday's session could not produce agreement on a statement of principles that would serve as a preamble to a new constitution.

Mr René Lévesque, Premier of Quebec, emerged from the meeting saying that while the session had been cordial, it was "not very promising for the immediate future".

Bolivian military demands postponement of poll

La Paz, June 10.—Bolivia's armed forces have demanded the total reorganization of the country and postponement of general elections scheduled for June 29.

At a press conference last night the military high command said the government likely to emerge from elections held this month would be weak and proposed that the Government of President Lidia Gueiler remain in power for at least another year.

The proposition, came after the Second Army Corps, stationed in Santa Cruz (560 miles south-east of the capital), declared itself as being in a "state of emergency" after the expiry of a 72-hour deadline fixed on Friday for the departure of Mr Mario Weissman, the American Ambassador.

The armed forces have denied reports from the United States State Department that plans for a military coup were under way. It also denounced as untrue a report in the *Washington Post* that Mr Weissman had prevented a coup in Bolivia on May 3, allegedly promoted by General Luis Garcia Meza, the army commander-in-chief.

The Second Army Corps has declared it will remain in emergency "until the diplomatic agent Weissman leaves the country". Bolivia has been rife with rumours of an impending military takeover for months, often resulting in friction between the army and civilian groups.

The country has had 188 coups in its 154 years of independence.

China sends sick priest aged 78 to labour camp

Hongkong, June 10.—A Roman Catholic priest, aged 78, has been sent back to the labour camp in China where he has already spent more than 20 years, sources here reported.

The sources said that the Rev Stanislaus Shen, who has a heart condition, was arrested on May 6 on charges of espionage, production and modernization, and sent to Pei Mao Lin camp in Axbui province of eastern China. He had been released two years ago.

The sources said that details of the charges were not known but it appeared that a pilgrimage organized by Father Shen in Shanghai had attracted about 3,000 Roman Catholics and resulted in a stoppage of work.

Kenya election defeat for former minister

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, June 10

Mr Mathews Ogutu, a prominent Kenyan politician and former Minister of Cooperatives, was heavily defeated in a by-election in the Ugenya constituency, western Kenya, today.

He won the seat by a majority of 23 in the general election last November, but the result was nullified by the High Court because of irregularities in the poll.

Mr James Aggrey Orenge, a lawyer, received 14,213 votes against Mr Ogutu's 14,225. Mr Orenge was supported by Mr Oginga Odinga, the former Kenya Vice-President, who has a big following in his Luo tribe.

Barrier Reef may be safe from oil drilling

From Douglas Aiton
Melbourne, June 10

Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Australian Prime Minister, says he has no doubt that the Great Barrier Reef, off the Queensland coast, will be added to the world heritage list.

His statement, at the opening of the World Wilderness Congress in Cairns, northern Queensland, gave considerable hope to those concerned that the Barrier Reef might become an oil search area.

"I know that all Australians feel confident that the Great Barrier Reef will take its place with other great natural wonders such as the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone National Park and the Galapagos Islands," Mr Fraser said. "I am equally confident that such a listing will provide a strong stimulus to international tourism in Queensland."

He said he hoped an announcement would be made soon. The reef has been recog-

nized as part of the natural heritage of Australia and later this month will be entered in the register of the national estate maintained by the Australian heritage commission.

Mr Fraser said: "This action obliges Commonwealth Government ministers, departments and agencies to ensure that any actions which they propose to take, which may have an adverse effect on the Great Barrier Reef, are proceeded with only after the most careful consideration and then only if there is no prudent and feasible alternative."

"However we have made it clear on a number of occasions and I repeat the commitment today, that it is our intention to protect the reef and its ecosystems from danger of any kind."

"We will not allow oil drilling on or near the Barrier Reef while there is the slightest risk of harm to the Barrier

Refugees' return threatens Kampuchea aid programme

From Neil Kelly
Bangkok, June 10

The return of thousands of Kampuchean refugees from Thailand to fight the Vietnamese-controlled regime in their own country is threatening the international aid programme for Kampuchea, a senior United Nations official said today.

Most of those returning in the next few weeks would be supporters of the deposed Khmer Rouge regime and would be seen by Vietnam as reinforcements for the enemy army, the official said.

Nine months ago, the Khmer Rouge supporters came to Thailand with orders to rest. They have now been ordered to join a wet-season offensive against the Vietnamese.

The move, officials fear, will reinforce suspicions in Phnom Penh and Hanoi of the motives behind Western aid. They say it is a wet-season offensive against the Vietnamese.

The move, officials fear, will reinforce suspicions in Phnom Penh and Hanoi of the motives behind Western aid. They say it is a wet-season offensive against the Vietnamese.

problem. They wondered whether Thailand had recognized the consequences of the repatriation, which will begin in the next two weeks.

They fear that the operation will be seen to confirm Vietnamese allegations that the Khmer Rouge supporters had offered sanctuary and recuperation to Khmer Rouge soldiers.

One diplomat said: "Just to see them you know they are strong again and last weekend at the Khmer Rouge refugee camp at Sa Kaeo, we saw they had not lost their fanaticism. They shook their fists and vowed in shouts to wage war to the death against Vietnam. It was the Pol Pot thing all over again."

About 20,000 Kampucheans have indicated that they wish to go back and all but a few of the Khmer Rouge supporters. Officials, however, believe that as few as 4,000 will return.

Officials of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees reiterated today that they would ensure as far as possible that no Kampuchean would be repatriated against his will. "We are confident from our experience that the Thai authorities will never forcibly repatriate any Kampuchean from the holding centres in Thailand."

They said that every person returning would be questioned and invited to state in writing that he was returning freely.

Yugoslavs hope devaluation will draw more tourists

From Dossa Trevisan
Belgrade, June 10

Yugoslavia has just devalued its currency by 30 per cent and has embarked on the first stage of the Government's programme to stimulate exports and reduce the balance of payments deficit which reached a record £1,500m last year.

After the devaluation it was announced in Washington that the International Monetary Fund is to grant a \$440m (£187m) credit to Yugoslavia which should make it easier for the Yugoslavs to overcome their economic difficulties.

The devaluation is the first in a three-stage stabilization programme over the next two years. With the tourist season already begun, its effect will be felt immediately. The Yugoslavs believe that more Western tourists will be attracted by the devaluation, which will bring prices in the country down to a level comparable with those in Greece and Spain.

The Yugoslavs expect to earn at least £600m from Western tourists this year. The devaluation was accompanied by the government's decree imposing a temporary freeze on prices. This was done because of the threat that the prices of many

goods containing imported raw materials would rise automatically, so defeating the intention of the devaluation and increasing the cost of living at a time when the Government is set on fighting inflation.

Last year inflation was officially admitted to have reached 26 per cent. In the first half of this year prices have already risen by possibly 20 per cent.

The devaluation is expected to stimulate exports. Because of high production costs, Yugoslav industry found it more profitable and certainly easier to sell at home. As a result exports continued to fall.

The situation improved last year but the devaluation will give Yugoslav exporting industries the help they need. However, it creates additional difficulties for many processing industries which depend heavily on imports.

The debate on whether the economy should be put right by stronger Government intervention or by stronger market laws has been going on for some time.

Now, it seems, that the champions of the free market and liberalism have prevailed. This means reinforcing the laws of the market economy.

Law Report June 10 1980

No firearm certificate required for rifle with rifling removed

Regina v Hucklebridge
Attorney General's Reference (No 3 of 1980)
Before Lord Justice Boreham and Mr Justice Gibson

The possessor of a Lee Enfield rifle with a barrel more than 24 inches long which has had its rifling removed so that the bore is smooth does not commit an offence under section 1 of the Firearms Act, 1968, by not holding a firearm certificate.

The Court of Appeal so held when allowing an appeal by David William Hucklebridge, aged 30, of Southsea, Hampshire, from conviction on a charge of possessing a rifle without a firearm certificate, contrary to section 1. He had changed his plea to guilty on advice after a finding by the trial judge and was fined £20.

By direction of the judge the jury found him not guilty on a similar charge in respect of another Lee Enfield rifle which, in addition to having its rifling removed, had been rebarreled to take .410 shot gun cartridges. This was a smooth-bore gun. Both weapons had been reproofed, the second as a shot gun, the other as a smooth-bore gun.

In respect of the acquittal the Attorney General referred, under section 36 of the Criminal Justice Act, 1972, the question for the court: "Whether it is possible to adapt a Lee Enfield rifle, which has admittedly been a firearm within the meaning of section 57(1)(a) of the 1968 Act requiring a firearm certificate pursuant to section 1(1), as to exclude the firearm from the definition of a firearm by reason of section 1(3)(a)?"

Section 1 provides that it is an offence to possess without a firearm certificate any firearm which is a rifle, section 1 applies to every firearm "except—(a) a shot gun (that is to say a smooth-bore gun which has a barrel less than 24 inches in length, not being an airgun)";

missile can be discharged and includes—(a) any prohibited weapon, whether it is such a lethal weapon as aforesaid or not; and (b) any component part of such a lethal or prohibited weapon; and (c) any accessory weapon; and (d) any component part of such a lethal or prohibited weapon; and (e) any accessory weapon; and (f) any component part of such a lethal or prohibited weapon; and (g) any accessory weapon; and (h) any component part of such a lethal or prohibited weapon; and (i) any accessory weapon; and (j) any component part of such a lethal or prohibited weapon; and (k) any accessory weapon; and (l) any component part of such a lethal or prohibited weapon; and (m) any accessory weapon; and (n) any component part of such a lethal or prohibited weapon; and (o) any accessory weapon; and (p) any component part of such a lethal or prohibited weapon; and (q) any accessory weapon; and (r) any component part of such a lethal or prohibited weapon; and (s) any accessory weapon; and (t) any component part of such a lethal or prohibited weapon; 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can make of them.

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Richard Streeton
June 10 British Lions 21
crappy match provided the
spectacle of the British
tour so far. Neither side
appeared to run the ball as
prudent refereeing often
did the Lions escape an-
guish, after Hedges' long
half an hour with torn
in his right knee.
Lions won by a goal, four
goals and a converted goal
four penalties and an un-
expectedly late try. The
Lions were not entirely to
blame for the end of the game
on my count, had
24 penalties against the
and seven against Eastern
U, with the tally 17-3 in
half. He seldom played
any game last week, a
al of baring at lineouts,
and numerous cases of off-
side times he changed
under pressure. The up-
irritation and frustration
to players. One was only
in the difference, the
to control the ball and
and annoyance.
side the misadventures
the team were six of
half a dozen of the other,
annoyingly nothing vicious.
Syd Millar, the Lions
at least retained his
touch. I would prefer
comment on the referee-
said. To add to the un-
several Lions were at
admission to the
cum-bar in the pavilion
had gone for a drink
and several Lions were
Only after protests were
mally admitted.
seemed to finish the
good order, the fast
He kicked four pen-
opped goal and a conver-
missed nothing he
He launched one
movement but mostly



Campbell, who missed nothing he attempted for the Lions.

kicked ahead, and survived some
rough handling from the Eastern
Transvaal flankers. Carleton, too,
spared himself nothing, but in the
pattern this game followed he did
not have a great deal to do.
Before going off Holmes had
looked as sharp as ever and did
his shoulder. How his knee in-
jury remains to be seen. Robbie's
swollen ankle did not allow him to
take his place on the replacements'
bench. It was Paterson who took
over Holmes' duties and played
another nippy, alert game.
This midweek Lions team seldom
share as well as the Saturday side
and Eastern Transvaal won a full
share of possession but had little
idea how to use it. Geere invari-
ably kicked ahead, but with
the good order, the fast
He kicked four pen-
opped goal and a conver-
missed nothing he
He launched one
movement but mostly

SALISBURY: Tour match: Zimbabwe
20, Public Schools Wanderers 29.

Racing

Tree can spring back in two Newbury fields

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Jeremy Tree, disappointed at not being able to run known fact at Royal Ascot next week because the horse has not yet recovered from a bad race, but I am still hoping to see Enchantment emerge the winner on this occasion.
Bright Landing, Tree's and also Carson's runner, in the 1500y Maiden Stakes made a terrific start when he finished fourth at Newbury in May and he is preferred today by saddling Bright Landing to win Enchantment (3.00) to win their respective races. As a long time friend of the late George Smith, Humphrey Cottrell will be managing for Khaled Abdullahi, who has bought the horse for the George Smith Memorial Handicap. Enchantment stands up well under scrutiny.
When he finished second at Newbury in May, he was beaten by Parton, who had won his previous race and has won here only once at Epsom last Saturday. In the meantime, Enchantment has won at Sandown Park. There, he ran on strongly to thwart Cornbar, who has also paid him a compliment recently by also winning at Epsom. All in all, Enchantment appears to have an excellent chance of giving Wont a win yet another beating this afternoon, especially as he has been drawn so well next to the rails nearest the stand.

Enchantment and Carson will have everything their own way this afternoon. Holmes broke on the short side, chipped ahead, and Carleton scored. Two minutes later Geere dropped a goal. Geere kicked all his team's penalties and missed three other feasible chances.
EASTERN TRANSVAAL: D. van Rensburg (C), J. Davis, P. Millar, S. H. Hay (captain), S. O. Campbell, J. Carleton, J. Holmes, J. Paterson, J. Williams, A. J. Phillips, J. Stephens, J. T. Tucker, J. R. Beattie, G. Williams, J. J. Steenkamp (Orange Free State).

Old Dominion, In Rhythm, Tarvie and Alpine Rocket are

York anniversary
York stages the tenth anniversary of the Timeform charity day on Saturday. The event has raised £360,268 in the past decade for cancer relief and other charities.

Return to Epsom
Epsom has a new trainer, David Wilson, who has returned to the Westwood handicap and last Friday night appears to be reasonably treated even with a 5lb penalty.

Newbury programme

2.0 HILSEY STAKES (2-y-o maiden fillies: £2,519: 5f)	3.0 GEORGE SMITH STAKES (Handicap: 3-y-o: £2,855: 6f)
1. Bright Landing, J. Tree, 8-11 2. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 3. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 4. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 5. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 6. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 7. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 8. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 9. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 10. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11	1. Bright Landing, J. Tree, 8-11 2. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 3. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 4. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 5. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 6. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 7. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 8. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 9. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 10. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11

Great Yarmouth programme

2.15 BURGESS STAKES (Handicap: 3-y-o: £1,716: 14m)	3.45 THORNTON STAKES (Handicap: 3-y-o: £1,132: 5f)
1. Bright Landing, J. Tree, 8-11 2. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 3. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 4. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 5. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 6. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 7. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 8. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 9. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 10. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11	1. Bright Landing, J. Tree, 8-11 2. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 3. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 4. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 5. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 6. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 7. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 8. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 9. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 10. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11

Great Yarmouth selections

By Michael Seely
2.15 Croftall, 2.45 Good Girl Tess, 3.15 Coral Leisure, 3.45 Down to Darkie, 4.15 Hilt Mercies King.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.15 Carlyle, 2.45 Good Girl Tess, 3.15 Coral Leisure, 3.45 Down to Darkie, 4.15 Hilt Mercies King.

Lingfield Park results

2.00 (3.3) GRACE BELLEVILLE STAKES (2-y-o: £2,000: 5f)	3.00 (3.3) CMC SPONSORED LADIES RACE (1.50: 5f)
1. Bright Landing, J. Tree, 8-11 2. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 3. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 4. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 5. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 6. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 7. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 8. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 9. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 10. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11	1. Bright Landing, J. Tree, 8-11 2. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 3. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 4. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 5. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 6. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 7. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 8. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 9. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 10. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11

Brassy is fit again and ready to turn the tables

By Michael Seely

Harry Thomson Jones was a jaybird or last summer's yearlings sales where his purchases included the 625,000 guineas colt by Lyphard. The Newmarket trainer is now starting to reap the harvest of his expenditure. At Epsom last week, Pontin Lad sprang home in a fast time over the Surrey course's sharp five furlongs and is on target for the Norfolk Stakes at Royal Ascot. Jones is also launching a two-pronged attack on the Queen Mary Stakes with Vienna Miss and Think Ahead.
This evening he can win the Bitter Needler Stakes at Beverley with Brassy. Two years ago the trainer watched his flying filly, Devon Ditty, come home to a comfortable victory in this coveted trophy. At the York spring meeting Brassy was beaten into third place by Labista but was found to be sick on her return to Newmarket. Labista is thought capable of going close at Ascot next week.
The consistent Candour could be Brassy's formidable opponent. But Bill O'Gorman's filly was flattered by her most recent running when third to Cut Throat and Lougha at York. Labista's saddle slipped over a furlong from home when she was travelling smoothly in the lead. However, Candour is being equipped with a pair of blinkers for the first time and she is sure to make a bold effort. Brassy is a 5-1 favourite to be involved in the finish as she divided Labista and Brassy at York. But Brassy is reported to be back to her best and is a firm selection.

Other likely Newmarket-trained winners on the Humberbridge track are Gipsy Dancer, State Trooper, Gipsy Dancer is one of O'Gorman's fine team of sprinters and should be too good at the weights for last to be beaten. State Trooper, winner Standish in the Bishop Burton stakes, State Trooper runs in the Westwood handicap and last Friday night appears to be reasonably treated even with a 5lb penalty.

The Pug is fighting his way to the top

By John Karter

You'd win on a donkey. Willie Carson was led in on the Pug after winning the feature race, the Leisure Stakes, on a miserable rain-soaked afternoon at Lingfield Park yesterday. The irrepressible Scot, fresh from plundering three of racing's most glittering prizes, the Epsom Derby and Oaks and the French Derby in the space of five days, was back with his reply in a flash. "This is no donkey," Carson called back at Lingfield but pointing meaningfully down at his mount.
No donkey certainly, for after two rather disastrous starts the Pug had proved himself the very good three-year-old that it was always thought he would become, by heading Lightning Label and the odds-on favourite, Greenland Park. The manner of his victory was certainly authoritative, as John Dunlop's colt had lived up to his name by fighting his way through the field approaching the final furlong, with the fourth horse, Dundral, being the principal sufferer.
The Pug's most likely target is the valuable Forman & Mason Handicap at Ascot. He has entered in three other races there. Incidentally, Cracking Form was left with one top ear after being left stung there when he was a foal.

Kilijaro is danger to Piggott

From Desmond Stoneham
French Racing Correspondent
Paris, June 10

Lester Piggott and House Guard should land the one mile Prix de Chantilly tomorrow. The ex-Irish filly Kilijaro may be the danger and it would be unwise to leave Rostov and Discretion out of one's calculations. Trained at Newmarket by Robert Armstrong, House Guard looks likely to hold Kilijaro on the line through the last furlong. Kilijaro was first past the post but later disqualified.

Piggott shows how to play a waiting game

Lester Piggott tread a big holiday crowd at Great Yarmouth yesterday to a reputation of his Coronation Cup tactics when winning the Yarmouth Mercury Centenary Handicap on the top-weight Ringit.
Philip Robinson brought Jubilee Prince with a sustained run from three furlongs out and for a moment it looked as though the favourite was going to win. But Piggott biding his time shook up Ringit to win by a head.
Age Quod Ales justified expectations in the Hopton Stakes. Daniel Widenstein's grey, with odds of 11-8 laid on him, lengthened his stride from the far side. Clonard to carry Joe Mercer clear of Show-a-Leg.
Paul Eddery's start-to-finish win on the bottom-weight Lilac Star in the Cradock Handicap, brought back memories of the early successes of Epsom on this track. Just as the mare used to, Lilac Star, backed from 10-1 to 6-1, raced by herself on the far side. Clonard challenge on the stands rails got her to within a short-head of the winner.

Great Yarmouth

2.15 (1.18) JOHN HOLIDAY STAKES (Maidens: £1,048: 5f)	3.15 (1.18) JOHN HOLIDAY STAKES (Maidens: £1,048: 5f)
1. Bright Landing, J. Tree, 8-11 2. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 3. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 4. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 5. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 6. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 7. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 8. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 9. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 10. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11	1. Bright Landing, J. Tree, 8-11 2. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 3. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 4. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 5. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 6. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 7. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 8. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 9. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11 10. Follow Me Home, J. Davis, 8-11

Sweden take a 2-0 lead

Bjorn Borg and Kjell Johansson won their opening singles matches to give Sweden a 2-0 lead over West Germany in their Davis Cup European zone semi final. Bjorn Borg, who won a record fifth French Open Championship title last Sunday, beat Rolf Gehring 6-1, 6-1, 6-2 in the opening match.
Johansson, ranked second in Sweden, was forced to four sets by Klaus Eberhard, winning 6-4, 0-6, 6-2, 6-3. The doubles match will be played tomorrow and the reversed singles tomorrow.
GRAND PRIX STANDINGS: Men's Singles: Borg, 2nd; Eberhard, 3rd; Johansson, 4th; Gehring, 5th; Borg, 6th; Eberhard, 7th; Johansson, 8th; Gehring, 9th; Borg, 10th; Eberhard, 11th; Johansson, 12th; Gehring, 13th; Borg, 14th; Eberhard, 15th; Johansson, 16th; Gehring, 17th; Borg, 18th; Eberhard, 19th; Johansson, 20th; Gehring, 21st; Borg, 22nd; Eberhard, 23rd; Johansson, 24th; Gehring, 25th; Borg, 26th; Eberhard, 27th; Johansson, 28th; Gehring, 29th; Borg, 30th; Eberhard, 31st; Johansson, 32nd; Gehring, 33rd; Borg, 34th; Eberhard, 35th; Johansson, 36th; Gehring, 37th; Borg, 38th; Eberhard, 39th; Johansson, 40th; Gehring, 41st; Borg, 42nd; Eberhard, 43rd; Johansson, 44th; Gehring, 45th; Borg, 46th; Eberhard, 47th; Johansson, 48th; Gehring, 49th; Borg, 50th; Eberhard, 51st; Johansson, 52nd; Gehring, 53rd; Borg, 54th; Eberhard, 55th; Johansson, 56th; Gehring, 57th; Borg, 58th; Eberhard, 59th; Johansson, 60th; Gehring, 61st; Borg, 62nd; Eberhard, 63rd; Johansson, 64th; Gehring, 65th; Borg, 66th; 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1. Secretary to the Political and Economic Adviser and the Commercial Adviser. Knowledge of French or German would be an asset but not essential. Might suit graduate with family now off hands.
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PARLIAMENT, June 10, 1980

Government providing more funds for books and equipment

House of Commons
Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced that the Government would be providing more funds for books and equipment in schools.

Mr Carlisle (Runcorn, C)—We are aware that difficulties exist. It is a recognition of the problem that the Government's expenditure plans make provision for increased expenditure per pupil in this area. Mr Sheerman—Widespread press reports say children have to ration books for their homework.

Mr Carlisle—For greater clarity I have it here with me. It is a statement by Mr Kinnock in which he says that the Government is setting a system where children draw lots to use books and equipment.

Will Mr Kinnock get up now and name the schools where this is happening so I can inquire into his allegations?
Sir John Eden (Bournemouth, West, C)—I am in provision of school books should be last in order of priorities of any well managed and proper thinking education authority.

Mr Carlisle—I agree and that is why, in looking for savings which are considerably less in proportion than the drop in pupils, we have said that those savings, where possible, should be made in areas where they do not affect children's learning. (Renewed Conservative Cheers.)

EEC leaders to discuss Middle East situation

It was not the Government's purpose to put any impediment in the way of the Camp David process, the Prime Minister said during questions.
Mr Cyril Townsend (Bexley, Bedfordshire, C) asked—Now the Camp David agreement has been signed, and recalling some serious incidents on the West Bank, is not it a good time for the European Community to put forward a new approach to the problems of the Middle East which does not ignore the views of the PLO?

Mr Margaret Thatcher—As a result of a direction at Luxembourg the heads of government and foreign ministers will be discussing the Middle East situation when we meet this weekend in Venice.

I am sure our discussions will take fully into account two vital things: the need to recognise the Israelis' right to exist behind secure boundaries and the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people.

The difficulty has always been to keep these two things reciprocal and in step. If we come to any conclusions, doubtless a communiqué will be issued.

Mr Hugh Fraser (Stafford and Stone, C)—On the Venice summit, approaching the dilemma of the Government in the matter, would she assure us that neither impediments are put in the way of the advance in the Camp David process nor damage done to Anglo-American relations?

Mr Thatcher—It is no part of our purpose to put any impediment in the way of the Camp David process in which we wholeheartedly believe and we hope will succeed, nor to cause any problems between Europe and the United States. It is vital we do not do that.

school books in schools and he is providing over a situation in which local education authorities are being forced by his cuts to break the 1944 Act, section 8 and section 61.

What will he do about that or is he content with the "books from bingo" system and dodging answers? (Conservative interruptions—by making references to my speeches instead of responding in his own responsibilities?)

Millions of children suffer from a shortage of books because of that lot over there.

Mr Carlisle—I am aware that there are probably many schools where books are from time to time shared and I suspect this has happened over many hundreds of years.

I am equally aware that having specifically asked Mr Kinnock to quote the schools where he said on Saturday "Children draw lots to use books and equipment," he has specifically failed to do so.

So the House must draw its own conclusion that Mr Kinnock is prepared to make any statement outside the House without any regard to the facts. In future, those who read these things in papers would be wise not to believe a word he says.

The House might be forgiven for not realising, after listening to Mr Kinnock's remarks today, that this Government, on books, materials and equipment in schools for the current year, 1980-81, is providing for an increase both on that spent in the last year of the Labour Government of 1978-79, in real terms, and on that which was intended to be provided by the last Government, in real terms, but which remained constant during the Labour Government.

So if Mr Kinnock is saying there are shortages of books and equipment, in view of his own party's record, it is hard to believe he is humbug. (Renewed Conservative Cheers.)

Mr Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, said she sometimes wondered what more atrocities the Russians had to do in Afghanistan to convince Britain's Olympic athletes that they should not go to Moscow.

Mr Cyril Townsend (Bexley, Bedfordshire, C) asked—Now the Camp David agreement has been signed, and recalling some serious incidents on the West Bank, is not it a good time for the European Community to put forward a new approach to the problems of the Middle East which does not ignore the views of the PLO?

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Tenerife crash: pilot turned in wrong direction

Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Trade (St. Ives, C), made a further statement on the Tenerife air crash which occurred on April 25.

He said that the Accident Investigation Branch of his department had been participating in the Spanish investigation.

The AIB team (he went on) had three days of meetings with the Spanish Commission of Investigation last week in Madrid.

Following this I am now in a position to inform the House of the statement which has been agreed between the Spanish team and my Accident Investigation Branch.

First radio contact with Tenerife Air Traffic Control was made by DA 1008 when it was 14 nautical miles from the VOR/DME beacon TPN. The flight was then cleared to the FP (beacon) via TPN, flight level 110, expect runway 12, no delay.

The flight up to this time had been without incident. Some three minutes later it was in position to descend and maintain flight level 60.

The crew reported overhead beacon TPN some 35 seconds after passing that facility. Air Traffic Control then informed them that the standard holding pattern, the commander, for reasons which are not clear, turned the aircraft to the left towards the south-east into an area of high ground where the sector minimum safe altitude is 14,500 feet.

During the descent to 5,000 feet, the ground proximity warning system operated and the crew immediately commenced an overshoot procedure. With high engine power being applied, the aircraft was put into a steep turn to the right, but it struck the mountain side before it had climbed above 5,500 feet.

The Tenerife North Airport was checked after the accident and were found to have been operating normally.

The Spanish Commission of Inquiry into the causes of the accident and will, in due course, produce a report.

The House will understand that the statement which I have read does not apportion blame, nor is it the object of an accident investigation to do so.

This procedure was not initiated to establish facts and to make such recommendations as I may think fit in order to improve safety.

Mr John Smith, Opposition spokesman on trade (North Lanarkshire, Lab)—The agreed statement is full of technicalities and I am sure it is as difficult for me as other MPs to appreciate the meaning of the statement. There is one fact Mr Nott should deal with.

It appears that the standard holding pattern requires a turn to the left by the aircraft. At a later stage in the statement, it is said that the commander, for reasons which are not clear, turned to the left.

Is it the case that the commander of the aircraft did not turn in accordance with the accepted holding pattern?

It is said in the statement that this holding pattern was not published and included in the appropriate radio facility charts carried by the aircraft. Can he comment on that and tell us what steps are being taken to make sure these things are carried on the aircraft and known to pilots operating in this area in light of the fact many thousands of British visitors are going to be travelling to the area in the forthcoming months?

What action are the Spanish, or relevant authorities, intending to take to make sure this kind of difficulty does not arise again?

Mr Nott—Mr Smith has raised two pertinent points. This is a technical matter. Until the full investigation report is published, I hope the House will understand that I must be careful what I say.

Mr Smith is right. The aircraft turned to the left towards the mountain side when it should have gone on to a north-west heading. So it did not turn in the correct direction.

On the published data, the information which is required to be provided by the air traffic controllers either has to be provided by publication or radio telephone transmission.

In this case, it was provided by radio telephone. It is not required that this information should be published by international agreement, but it is true to say that there is a convention that normally it is.

Mr Smith—What I asked was what steps are being taken to make sure this kind of difficulty does not arise again. Did I understand Mr Nott to say he was prepared to rely on a convention for these things? It might be wiser for him to take some action for the forthcoming months.

Mr Nott—The requirements here are agreed by international agreement. I have asked Mr Smith's point on board and understand that the published information is correct at this juncture that the international agreement requires either it should be published or that it should be made available to the aircraft by radio telephone which is what happened in this case.

Mr Winston Churchill (Stratford, C)—Can he confirm that there was no surveillance radar available to the air traffic authorities at Tenerife Airport? This is a grave deficiency in an airport which is used by countless thousands of British and other holidaymakers, in the course of the year.

The airport is plagued by bad weather and surrounding high land. If surveillance radar had been in operation this accident could have been avoided even if the necessary instructions of air traffic control had not been properly complied with by the pilot.

Mr Nott—I repeat in answer to Mr Churchill on April 28 when I said there were radio navigation aids at the airport, including a main VHF beacon, and three medium frequency beacons of low power, together with an instrument landing system.

There is surveillance radar at Las Palmas covering the whole island, but there is no local radar at the northern airfield. This is not dissimilar to the situation in many airports throughout the world, which take scheduled aircraft.

I cannot answer the question whether the accident could have been avoided if there had been local radar. It is impossible at this juncture to say. Further information of that sort would have to await the full report.

Mr Charles Morris (Manchester, Openmarket, Lab)—The statement poses the possibility of pilot error. Will Mr Nott give an assurance that the safety and integrity of British holidaymakers will be paramount above the interests of charter airlines and travel agents and the susceptibility of the Spanish aviation authorities?

Can he give a categorical assurance that Los Rodeos is safe for charter flights?

Mr Nott—Of course the safety of air passengers is paramount. That must be right. I understand the strong feelings about local radar but this is an approved airport.

There is now an over case (he said) for examining international level the adequacy of facilities if we are reassured to many a Mr Nott—I am not aware changes in procedures at Tenerife but I will check. There has been considerable concern about the adequacy of facilities and I have taken to draw this to the attention of the British authorities.

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High wages and high output better than lower pay and lower output

Mr Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, said that she rejected the four courses of more tax on the pay packet, more value added tax, more corporation tax, more interest rates, or printing more money.

Mr Jack Straw (Blackburn, Lab)—A forecast of the European Economic Community shows that Britain's economy will be worse than any of her European partners this year, declining by 2½ per cent, while every other country has a forecast of an increase, including that of Italy which, despite its level of inflation being the same rate as ours, will rise by 3½ per cent.

Mr Thatcher—I am sure that anything to do with the performance of the economy is a matter for the country, not which is the scapegoat for the month to explain away the failure of her economic policy?

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Cafeteria meals in schools get popular

Mr Neil Macfarlane, Under Secretary for Education and Science, rejected at question time a call for an inquiry into the nutritional value of school meals.

Miss Joan Lester (Eton and Slough, Lab) had commented: The switch to the cafeteria system, growing concern among teachers and parents about the nutritional value of school meals.

In some areas, the overwhelming majority of children taking school meals are those eligible for free meals, because the parents are able to pay for them but do not consider the nutritional value of the meal is worth the extra cost.

Would he hold an inquiry into the nutritional content of the school meal?

Mr Macfarlane—It is not true that the cafeteria type meal is unpopular in schools. Many schools have been switching to the cafeteria type meal.

The cafeteria type meal has been in many secondary schools for a long time. The pupils like it, the teachers approve of it, and it is becoming more popular than ever in the changing dietary scene.

As to price, in the current school term some 38 local authorities are charging 35p, 36p, 37p, 38p, 39p, 40p, 41p, 42p, 43p, 44p, 45p, 46p, 47p, 48p, 49p, 50p, 51p, 52p, 53p, 54p, 55p, 56p, 57p, 58p, 59p, 60p, 61p, 62p, 63p, 64p, 65p, 66p, 67p, 68p, 69p, 70p, 71p, 72p, 73p, 74p, 75p, 76p, 77p, 78p, 79p, 80p, 81p, 82p, 83p, 84p, 85p, 86p, 87p, 88p, 89p, 90p, 91p, 92p, 93p, 94p, 95p, 96p, 97p, 98p, 99p, 100p.

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Summertime to start a week later

Mr Iain Mills (Meriden, C) asked the Home Secretary (William Whitelaw, C) to remedy the situation whereby Great Britain is out of step with the rest of Europe on changes to summer time.

Mr William Whitelaw said in a written reply: We have made it clear to our partners in the European Community that we see considerable difficulty in achieving a common date for the change to summer time, which this year will end on October 26 in the United Kingdom and September 28 in member states of the EEC.

The European Community is therefore concentrating on a common starting date, which would be one week later than the present United Kingdom date, but one week earlier than that on the mainland of Europe.

The Government welcomes this proposal and is ready to seek the agreement of Parliament to a draft Bill to amend the law on summer time to start on March 29 in 1981 and March 28 in 1982.

Mr Gerard Vaughan, Minister of State for Health (Reading, South, C) moving the amendment to Clause 23 (Interpretation and minor amendments and repeals) of the Health Service Act 1978, in the latest expenditure White Paper for the removal of the exemption from dental charges for school leavers under 21 years of age.

It was originally proposed to charge all those over 16 who were no longer at school, but the British Dental Association put forward strong arguments that that would damage the dental health of those aged 16 and 17.

The Government had accepted that young people should be exempted from dental charges for the first year of their age of 18 and also those under 19 who were in full-time education.

The Government was imposing charges on young people who had been exempted from the Royal Commission had said that the dental health of the nation was at stake and that the high charges for dental treatment were one of the reasons for it.

The amendment went against the pledge of the Prime Minister during the general election that the Conservatives had no plans to impose fresh charges during the current Parliament. This was a new charge.

The country had never before imposed dental charges on young people under 21.

The report stage was completed and the Bill makes changes to the dental health of the nation in the local administration of the health service in England and Wales, was then read the third time by 127 votes to 64 votes—Government majority 63.

Monday's sitting ended at 4.15 am today.

Mr David Watkins (Consett, Lab) asked the Minister of Transport what was the average waiting time for driving tests, and what measures he was taking to reduce the waiting time.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Parliamentary Secretary, said in a written reply: On May 23, the average waiting period for driving tests was 26½ weeks, last November it was 28½ weeks. It still far too long, but we are having to cope with the previous administration's failure to employ enough examiners.

Ministers and I are determined to reduce the backlog, since we took office, we have recruited over 300 new examiners, and further recruitment should steadily reduce waiting periods in future.

Mr Bruce Millan, chief C spokesman on Scottish (Glasgow, Caledonia, Lab) was not at the House when the Bill was introduced, which allowed the rent to be increased from the date of the officer's determination of a further notice from the landlord.

The Peugeot 505



Executive Car of the Year

What Car? magazine

"The new car that offers excellent handling and power steering as well as an outstanding ride to complement its very respectable performance."

"We found it hard to fault."

"The 505 is a sensible thoroughly developed executive car..."

"The new 505 has beaten some impressive rivals to take its class."

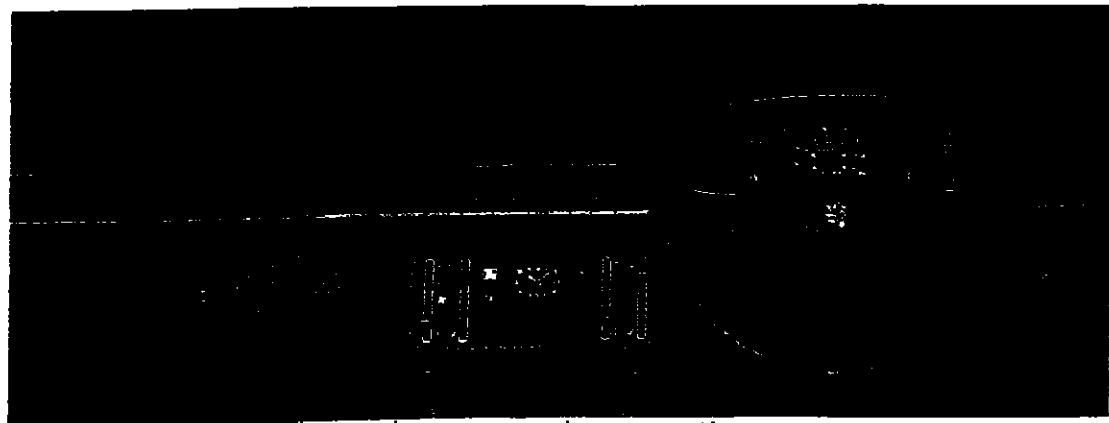
"What the other Experts Say"

"With the 505, Peugeot have achieved their aim to produce a car that has the excellent ride, good noise suppression and comfort of a limousine, but that has the sporty appeal of cars from a marque such as BMW."

What Car?, November 1979

"The 505's main appeal is that it is a particularly well balanced all-rounder, notable for its quietness and comfort."

Daily Telegraph, November 1979



505 GR Dashboard

"Quite simply, the 505 is an excellent motorcar... good at most things, excellent at some, and poor at none."

Motor, November 1979



505 STI Interior

"It is, above all, a well-balanced car: quiet, well-sprung and pleasant to handle."

Sunday Telegraph, December 1979

"Ride and handling of the 505 was impressive. Towcar of the Year 1980, the Peugeot 505 SR."

Caravan, December 1979

"TI/STI with new Douvrin engine is the definitive 2.0 litre four-door saloon."

Car Magazine, December 1979

"As always in a Peugeot, the ride quality is superb."

Financial Times, December 1979

Peugeot Automobiles (UK) Ltd,
333 Western Avenue,
London W3 0RS
Tel: 01-993 2331



Peugeot 505 TI
wins German Golden
Steering Wheel Award.
This is the first time a
non-German car has won
this accolade, sponsored
by the Springer Group,
publisher of Europe's
largest Sunday
newspaper

Now that the Budget season is coming to an end...



Flashback to Sir Geoffrey Howe's first Budget.

A case of too long and too late?

The Budget season has almost closed for this year as the Finance Bill plods towards its summer conclusion. The acres of newspaper and hours of air time devoted to predicting what it might contain and then analysing what it did contain are forgotten. Apart from continuing discussion in the financial pages, and some front page comment when an economist from a City cockroaching house predicts gloom, the whole subject is laid to rest for about nine months until the Budget process starts again.

Next February the Chancellor will go increasingly into purdah to prepare the next Budget encompassing next year's economic policies. At the same time the Budget pundits will begin to come into their own again. As the great day gets nearer, interest groups, ranging from the EBI to the TUC will tell the Chancellor what he should do. More and more each year feel it their public duty publicly to tell him, and to all his enigmatic replies must suffice until the great day is over, with its traditional headlines of "Sp on tags, 2p on beer" or whatever. A Tuesday or Wednesday budget is good for comment until the following Sunday, then it is over and the close season begins.

Except, of course, for MPs who go on into the next week solemnly and uselessly debating what the Budget contained and what they would have liked to have seen. Like so much else of the parliamentary round the Budget Debate is of some interest to those inside the Palace of Westminster but of decreasing interest to the media and therefore the public as the days pass.

The exact relevance of the whole business, which seems pretty futile, must be questioned. The chamber may be packed on Budget day itself and again for one hour or so during the wind-up speeches at the end of the four-day debate which follows, but in between it is populated by 10 or 20 people.

Most are "waiting to get in" whether eager young budgeteers clutching their Red Books and ready to deliver alternative strategy, or former Treasury ministers unable to resist saying what they would have done. On the front bench sit a lonely and disinterested few: the Government's spokesman, not even from the Treasury; Polite and distant interest is shown in the speeches, alternatively praising the strategy and attacking it. The fine poses in praise of an "incentive budget" or attacking "this assault on working people, this slaughter of the innocents" are pumped out with the press galleries largely empty, and are as lost to the public as they are to the front bench.

They understandably, exhausted by the months of preparation, want to get the whole debate out of the way, rebutting allegations of mismanagement or class warfare while graciously accepting plaudits. The last thing at the moment one could reasonably expect is an acceptance of anything, and even less likely the committing of useful ideas to memory for next time. The

Budget comes in with a bang, and goes out with a whimper in Parliament as the Government's backbenchers give it their majority on the last night. They have had little chance to make their views known in the chamber in the Budget run-up. Backbench committees, to be sure, have made their views known, and discreet lobbying goes on. But their role in debate is after the horse has bolted and the door shut behind it. Surely the whole Budget formulating process needs overhauling in parliamentary terms? This Government has moved swiftly and surely in reforms of procedure, most notably in the setting-up of the potentially very important select committees, now flexing their muscles.

Commendably Sir Geoffrey Howe this year brought forward for the first time on the same day Government plans for raising and spending money, in the shape of the Red Book on revenue and the White Paper (curiously within blue covers) on expenditure. Extraordinary that governments should never have done so before: let us hope that it continues to do so next year, perhaps daringly putting Red Book and White Paper within the same covers—then that could truly be called a Budget.

Even further, might not the four-day Budget debate, with its ritual, and largely unneeded—cries be shortened to just one day of reaction? And a genuine and more useful debate be substituted earlier in the parliamentary year, soon after Parliament resumes after Christmas? Two or three days of Budget debate then might actually serve a useful purpose, indicating to the Chancellor what Government backbenchers end opposition felt, possibly coming up with some useful ideas, certainly giving a parliamentary context for the real Budget months later.

Nothing in such a process would tie the Chancellor's hands; indeed it would enable him to see the markers put down by his own side, rest how far he could or should go and draw some of the opposition's fire. This proposal is, in essence, similar to the move towards the pre-legislative scrutiny that some would like to see the new select committees undertaking.

The whole tone would be set by the Chancellor in a dramatically analytical and speculative opening speech. "This is the state of the economy, here are some likely predictions for the short and medium term now, what is to be done?" Nothing formed, nothing given away, no hostages to fortune, but the starting point of a much more genuine Budget debate than the present empty charade played to a mostly empty chamber.

Indeed, some would go so far as to say that the Government should actually publish a draft Budget to be discussed. This is exactly what the Finnish Parliament are doing this very week in advance of their September budget.

John Patten

The author is Conservative MP for Oxford.

The McNamara years at the World Bank: the mighty effort has not been wasted

As a prophet he has not only warned of doom, he has laid down plans of action to avert disaster...

On April 1, 1968, Mr Robert McNamara's first day in office at the World Bank, he assembled the senior mandarins to tell him the state of this august and revered institution over which he had just assumed control. They told him, as permanent secretaries are wont to tell incoming ministers, that everything was very difficult: we have had to cut back on loans because we cannot borrow any more on Wall Street; we are giving no soft loans to the poorest countries because Congress has refused to appropriate any money for the International Development Association; the future looks worse and we must plan for further cutbacks because the limits of the absorptive capacity of the developing countries are being reached.

Mr McNamara listened intently and summed up briefly: "I would like to have a complete list of the projects we would undertake in the next five years if there were no limitation on our borrowings and no artificial limits on the developing countries capacity to absorb."

That was the beginning of the five-year plan to double bank lending: a plan which was duly achieved by 1973. Now, after 12 years of fantastic growth for the Bank, Mr McNamara plans to leave in 1981. What have the McNamara years meant for the bank, for its clients—the world's poor—and its creditors—the world's rich? There can be no doubt about the statistics—in almost every way the Bank has quadrupled in size but, though Mr McNamara is notorious for his love of statistics, I have always found that they were secondary in his thinking. He lived by intuition, which he justified (first of all to his own private conscience) by statistics.

When, in 1968, he first surveyed the Third World scene, he felt that the underdeveloped countries were not doing all they could or should (for reasons of prudence and morality) to bring the

developing countries forward as fast as possible. But that surely was what the World Bank was meant to do: therefore it must expand until it could tackle the job.

That was the message of his first annual meeting speech: that when development assistance was decreasing everywhere the World Bank would double its lending. It was a message of hope to the Third World which slowed the drift into confrontation, but it was a message that shocked many of the Bank's traditional supporters. The Bank treasurer resigned on the ground that he could never raise those amounts of money; the gnomes of Zurich and many development gnomes within and without the Bank declared that it could never lend so much prudently.

There was a storm which Mr McNamara rather enjoyed. As always, he sailed straight into the heart of it. In his inaugural speech he had said (echoing President Kennedy) that the only reason to obtain power was to use it, and to quit when it was used up. Perhaps he is acting that out today. In the first five years he defied his critics with superb use of power. He borrowed all the money he needed (and continues to do so today) by simply going outside Wall Street to Frankfurt, Zurich, Tokyo and now the Eurodollar market. He found a way of investing it both prudently and beneficially by studying the real needs of developing countries and suggesting to them where the Bank should invest rather than waiting for their requests.

In my opinion Mr McNamara's greatest achievement lies in his comprehension of the complex problem of world poverty, its cause and possible cures. He was enormously helped in this by the theoretical work carried out in the Bank under Hollis Chenery, the first deputy director, and the schemes devised by the regional vice-presidents. But it was Mr McNamara himself who had made those appointments;

above all it was his burning zeal which fused the practical with the theoretical. He was able to do this because he built up an unrivalled practical and theoretical knowledge of the developing world. He visited almost every country, always prepared by a massive black book containing far more acute and detailed theoretical and historical analysis of the country than was available to its own government.

His prodigious mind usually memorized all of this by the time he met the members of the government whom he would cross-question to see if he and his staff had really understood the situation aright. It was from this practical education that he learnt at first hand the failure of the trickle-down system in which all development policies had been based. He chose a meeting of Unctad in Allende's Chile to denounce policies which did not permit the bottom 40 per cent of the population in the developing world to participate in the development process or share in its benefits.

This led to further storms with those least developed

countries whom he had named as examples of unfair income distribution. But Mr McNamara went on asking whether they thought they could survive with such disparities, and if not what to do to get rid of them. The conventional answer was to claw back the "wealth" of those who did better out of development, but this was clearly a dead-end solution which Mr McNamara rejected.

Once, when we were on a visit to Tanzania, President Julius Nyerere had invited us to meet the cabinet and in the course of discussion the Finance Minister, Mr Amiri Jamal, strongly argued for policies which made the small farmer with one acre and a cow the object of development policies instead of concentrating on the economies of scale provided by big estates. Mr McNamara seized on this saying: "To make the small farmer the instrument of progress—that would be the breakthrough of the century."

Out of that sprang the Bank's rural development programme, by no means entirely novel but perhaps the most significant shift in development theory and practice since the 1930s. The programme was announced in the 1973 annual meeting speech in Nairobi and within the year a multi-billion dollar programme was in train. It has been successful where it has been tried; but 1973 also saw the quadrupling of oil prices, a lethal blow to development based on cheap energy and, as a by-product, cheap fertilizer.

Within a few weeks of the Opec price rise Mr McNamara had worked out with some of the major oil exporters, a scheme for using part of their profits for a global development programme. But suspicion on both sides wrecked this, so that his second five years at the Bank have sometimes seemed like running up the down staircase. Even today the new Structural Adjustment Programme is only an attempt to buy time and avoid disaster in the hope that real development can resume.

Has all this mighty effort been wasted? I think future historians will not be so harsh in their judgment. What Mr McNamara has done is to create

a great and powerful force for north-south development. It has done this by doubling its lending to \$80,000 million and its soft loan capital to \$12,000 million. These speeches and the world's most important person, Mr McNamara, the world's most powerful man, know, and why it so deep needs to know it. Yet a prophet he has not only of doom, he has laid plans of action to avert it.

But at this moment I am certain that either the countries of the Group of Developing Nations will heed his warnings or make his Both sides think they are for themselves but in his last year of office a debt of the World Bank need to make a final course the world to the it faces in the last 20 years of this century.

William
The author was vice-president for external relations World Bank from 1974-1977.

Bernard Levin

The pain that goes with telling the truth

The fascinating and tragic account two weeks ago, by "A Special Correspondent" lately in Poland, of the worsening conditions there for anyone who challenged the official line, the dictatorship of Gierk and his Soviet masters, can be supplemented by a good deal more of the same, and I intend to supplement it, for the background to the state of affairs so vividly described in the article is of considerable interest in itself and in some ways most instructive, too.

Take first the case of Miroslaw Chojceki, who runs, at the constant risk of his liberty—indeed, of his life—the leading samizdat publishing organization in Poland (which means, of course, the leading publishing organization, for the official ones, despised and ignored by anyone interested in thought, literature or ideas, are confined within the deadening prison of the official party line). As we read last week, he had been arrested and imprisoned on an absurd charge of stealing a duplicator, and released after protests from supporters who must be as brave as he, the penalties for protesting at injustice in Poland being as severe as those for suffering it.

Chojceki's history is extremely interesting. He was a chemist by training until, after the widespread Polish protests of 1976 (in which hundreds were sacked from their jobs, imprisoned and beaten up, and

some killed), Chojceki involved himself in the groups set up to defend the victims of the repression. He was himself sacked, of course, and he thereafter became involved in setting another job commensurate with his talents; he has therefore become, in effect, a full-time worker on behalf of the liberty denied to his country by those who have stolen it from its people.

He was first arrested in September 1976. Since then, he has spent on and off (and not counting the most recent arrest, on the trumped-up duplicator charge), a total of five months in prison. I have some additional statistics on the authorities' persecution of Chojceki: his flat has been searched 15 times, he has been subjected to intimate body-searches twice a week on average, he has had 16 criminal charges laid against him, under seven sections of the Polish penal code, and he has himself compiled some statistics of his own, which he dared to put in a letter to the appropriate committee of the Polish Parliament, the Hist being of things which Gierk's official thuggery have stolen from him in the course of their searches of his person and his dwelling. It includes:

... three tins of meat, Indian ink, a typewriter, a jar of curry powder, a roll of adhesive tape, cuttings from the Polish press, blank recording tapes, tapes of jazz, about

6,000 songs in cash, a handbook on the programming of digital machines, quantities of clean paper, the contents of a waste-paper basket, a pencil, a pair of scissors, an officially unauthorised publication, notes towards academic work and so on, making a total of about 500 items.

The reasons for the searches and thefts have sometimes been given and make even more interesting reading than the list of things taken. One goes like this:

On 22nd January 1977 the Regional Prosecutor's Office in Otwock received... an anonymous note addressed to the Institute for Nuclear Research in Swierk... in which it appears that Miroslaw Chojceki threatened to make use of toxic substances which could have had tragic consequences for the whole capital.

Even before that, in the wake of the autumn protests in 1976, Chojceki, who had been observing the trial of some of the arrested demonstrators in Radom, was beaten up (before the proceedings had even begun, and in the very precincts of the court) and took refuge in the courtroom itself; when he emerged during a break in the proceedings he was beaten up again, and later on the same day, and in the same building, yet again. The attacks were repeated as the trial—and Chojceki's attendance at it—went

on, and were broadened to include others, including one of the defence lawyers. This physical ill-treatment, of course, was in addition to the other forms of harassment which any dissident in Poland expects as standard treatment, with the addition in his case of a decision that all sums of money sent to him at his home address would be confiscated, "for the purpose of safeguarding them".

None of this has deterred Chojceki; on the contrary, it has led to his work for NOWA, the independent (and of course illegal) publishing organization I mentioned. This, too, was referred to in the earlier article, but this, too, is even more interesting in its ramifications and effects. But to estimate the magnitude of NOWA's achievements, it is necessary to understand first the conditions in which samizdat publication is carried on in a country in which the authorities officially censor literally every published word, down to obituary notices and small ads in the newspapers, marriage announcements and academic theses, every frame of every film. And of course it is illegal for any Polish citizen to purchase privately duplicating machines and "kits", photocopying equipment, printing ink, even typing paper (though this last can sometimes be obtained on presentation of a Writers' Union membership card).

Now NOWA publishes books

in editions of about 2,000 copies (the demand is very considerably higher than that, of course, since NOWA and the other unofficial publishing houses put out practically all the books that anyone in Poland wants to read), and calculate that the average number of pages is 200. Each book, therefore, needs some 40,000 sheets of typing or duplicating paper (real printing, of course, is impossible for them), and in a country where it is illegal, and in practice almost insuperably difficult, for private citizens lacking the imprimatur of the authorities to buy such materials, it will be easily seen how astonishing is NOWA's success in publishing, so far, 55 books and two literary magazines, the latter having so far clocked up, respectively 13 and eight quarterly issues.

The range of work published is itself remarkable. It includes fiction, poetry and books on contemporary questions, and apart from contemporary Polish writers who either cannot get their work published officially, or do not wish to, its authors include Polish writers in exile and others of the past, such as Witold Gombrowicz and Jurek Kurylowicz. Soviet poets such as Mandelstam and Brodsky (two of Stalin's victims) and translations from such foreign writers as Günther Grass and George Orwell. NOWA also manages to publish papers on academic subjects put out by the "Flying University", the work of which

was also described in last article.

Naturally, whenever this material is found spies and interrogators Gierk regime, it is considered a hazard additional to the material involved in the first. Nonetheless, the publishers must have to do something like volumes. There is no estimating how many read each volume, but it experience is anything to the likelihood is a Polish readership for samizdat book is even than in the Soviet Union it can be seen that the made by NOWA to have a genuine and important impact on the State put monopolies is simply just.

But the picture I have sketched intended to support the account by "A Special Correspondent", still a correspondent element, needs a full understanding, courage and tenacity by those who defy the Polish that the people allowed to read only to who insist that there is an opportunity to read. Tomorrow, I shall detail account of some of the most recent heroism-futures suffer, as methods used to suppress their difficulties.

(To be concluded)
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LONDON DIARY

This way Lazard Freres can't lose

It seems that Lazard Freres, the American bank that parted so expensively with their whiz-kid pensioner Ian MacGregor to the deeply troubled British Steel Corporation, have stitched up Sir Keith Joseph and the Department of Industry even more thoroughly than has so far been revealed.

I gather that the bank will not lose out on the highly lucrative deal, drawn up at considerable expense to the British taxpayer, even if MacGregor should quite literally drop dead today with the problems of his crippled steel industry. You will recall, I am sure, that the Government agreed to pay Lazard a fee of £575,000 to acquire the MacGregor hard-earned Scot's expertise for three years; in addition, they let themselves in for an extra fee varying from nothing to £1,150,000, depending on how well the man performs in the job. This is all on top of paying MacGregor an annual salary of £45,500 (hardly a king's ransom for a captain of industry, I might say) for the post of

chairman, which he takes up officially on July 1.

Now, in a frank and comradely letter that has come my way (as these things do) Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, tells one of his Tory backbenchers that if the new chairman dies within a year of his appointment the Government will pay £225,000 to his former employers.

Sir Keith adds: "I should, however, emphasize that he is a very fit man who shows no sign of diminished stamina in the work he has been doing as a general partner in Lazard Freres and his other business activities." And just to make sure that the point is driven home, Sir Keith has appended a handwritten postscript to the effect that the very fit man (who will be 69 this year) "was so found at a medical before appointment".

When I asked the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, for their reaction, it was remarkably restrained. Unprintable, as you might expect from a union that has just emerged from the longest strike in postwar history, but restrained. Roughly translated, it was that nothing could shock them any more.

Sir Keith still believes that MacGregor is a good bargain for the taxpayer, who is cur-

rently paying for British Steel's losses of £1m a day. It goes without saying that the new man has the best of health.

Taped

The idea of Peter Walker disseminating the thoughts of Anthony Wedgwood Benn by way of a tape cassette should be enough to have the staff at Tory Central Office rushing out into Smith Square proclaiming the perfidy of politics.

But wait. It is not that Peter Walker but his namesake, a Labour councillor and former parliamentary candidate who works for Amnesty International. This Mr Walker is a Bennite and he and Peter Rain have produced this cassette which will be sent to Labour activists.

The cost is only £1.99, but then it is not actually Paul McCartney or James Galway. The cassette is a recording of the "debate of the decade" held recently by the left at Central Hall, Westminster.

Walker and Rain say that the cassette is the first commercially recorded political meeting in Britain. I shall be watching the charts with added interest.



Some eyebrows were raised in wonder, others in suspicion, at a photograph on the front of *The Times* last week showing a group of war veterans revisiting Dunkirk. Who, a great many callers to this office wanted to know, was the hero with no less than 24 medals on his chest? I can tell you that he was Edgar Hawkins, now aged 65 and a head gardener in north London. I reproduce him and his entire breast of medals above. He joined up in an ambulance driver in 1939, and was demobbed as a lance-corporal in the Royal Military Police in 1945, having visited many theatres of war in Europe and Palestine. But his decorations have not amused the Imperial War Museum, whose medals expert told me yesterday: "I wish these veterans would not confuse proper campaign and gallantry awards with mere commemorative medals turned out by the thousand by various ex-servicemen's organizations here and abroad. The commemorative ones should be worn below the proper ones, and on an official British parade they would not be allowed at all. Mr Hawkins has got his all mixed up, but he is nothing to some sights I have seen at Dunkirk reunions."

Among this month's events listed in the current bulletin of the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa is a lecture in the medical faculty entitled "The physiology of Ouch!" Could it be a dissertation on how to tend patients in black townships, who frequently utter these words when assisting police with their inquiries?

Foyled again

My item last week, about a customer in Foyle's bookshop in search of the spiritual exercises of a certain saint being directed to the sports department, has brought a crop of anecdotes about similar misdirections in that and other literary emporia.

Anthony Cox of Highgate tells me that, in search of T. S. Eliot's *Cultivation of Christmas Trees*, he was directed to the gardening section. He also found Ruthven Todd's *Tracks in the Snow* (studies in English science and art) among the Everest books, and Margaret Lane's *Tale*



of Beatrix Potter displayed under "Ceramics." Carmen Trizary of Muswell Hill had a customer for *Le Rouge Et Le Noir*, Stendhal's stirring novel of an unconventional hero, directed to the political science section.

A. M. Clark of Dart visiting another London, shop to find a histo Christ's Hospital, was sent to the religious department then to the medical text Arthur Keefe of London really foxed the staff who asked for a recently-published account of one of the de barles of history, *The Y Thermopylae*. All they advise was to look "Anthropology."

I would not be at all prised to find a rogue of Richard Adams's new novel *Girl In A Swing*, hastily drawn from sale last month unspecified reasons, among legal textbooks.

Dallas latest, Larry Ha the actor who plays the v our J.R. in the BBC's ho popular soap opera ab Texas oil family, was a gu the Metropolitan Police tour of New Scotland yesterday. I expect he w the murder squad to fin who shot him in the episode.

Alan Hamill

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ALY'S PERMANENT CRISIS

About ten years ago that glib economic miracle ran steam and Italy became the most advanced of nations. Since then, however, the economic and social problems have been staggering, from scandal and crisis to crisis, inflation has been only worse than Britain's, and corruption has been chronic.

Corruption has been in a grossly oversized sector. Terrorism steadily, to reach a terrible and the kidnapping and of Signor Moro two years combination of evils to be leading, first to a of fascism or a right-oup, then to take over the party of order and government. Democratic instead of facing up dangers and getting to push through necessary reforms, seemed utterly within their own parties, ough them for office and ge in a state whose only was apparently to prod-outs for their clientele. tervals during the seven- outside observers cranked attention, attempted to Italy's troubles, and disaster if the political d not rapidly pull itself and adopt some drastic s. The odd thing is that nothing has happened, as neither been a spec-recovery nor a spec-collapse. Signor Moro's rovided almost the only of high drama. For those eks there was a sense onal emergency which as though it might beget asing national unity and mination to get things

is discovered that their d their democracy, with it faults, were worth g; Christian Democrats

and Communists brought tortuously together over a long period mainly by the efforts of Signor Moro himself, ironically stood shoulder to shoulder in defence of the state, resisting his own anguished pleas for a deal with his captors, that would have saved his life. Some observers even hailed this extraordinary moment as marking "the birth of the state".

Perhaps it was so, but not in the way that was then expected. The alliance of Christian Democrats and Communists did not last. The Communists' rough anti-terrorist line did not save them from being blamed by the voters. The Christian Democrats reaped a sympathy vote, while the Socialists—whose relatively soft line during the Moro crisis in part reflected a new determination to demarcate themselves from the Communists—began a modest recovery. Frightened by their supporters' anger at the lack of tangible results to show for their collaboration with the Christian Democrats, the Communists went back into opposition.

Christian Democrats and Socialists, sending an anti-communist wind in their sails as the international horizon darkened, have both moved back to the right and now, after much byzantine manoeuvring, have actually reconstituted the old centre-left coalition which was thought to have been finally shipwrecked by the Communist gains of 1975-6. Meanwhile an octogenarian Socialist president, elected almost in spite of his own party, with the support of both Communists and Christian Democrats, to the post which Moro should have filled, has rejuvenated an office discredited by his corrupt predecessor and introduced a new briskness into the management of public affairs, at least on the procedural level. He has for instance reversed the tradition by which each "crisis" between the resignation of a government and the instalment of its suc-

cessor lasted longer than the previous one. And people have begun to notice that whatever official figures say, a lot of healthy economic activity is going on behind the backs of taxman and statistician.

None of that amounts to fundamental change. The state finances are still a shambles, the administration still corrupt, terrorism still rife in spite of some worrying encroachments on civil liberties, the new government plagued like its predecessors by scandal and nearly brought down after two months in office by allegations that the prime minister had tipped off a party colleague that his son was wanted for terrorist conspiracy. The Communists still issue in an attempt to turn local and regional elections, in which they faced the verdict of the electors in many of the cities and regions where they won control in their great surge of 1975, into a referendum on the continuance of the government in office.

The electors, whether intentionally or not, have voted to give both the Communist local administrations and the anti-communist government a further lease of life. There is a swing against the Communists, but less pronounced than in the general election last year. There is a correspondingly modest gain for the Christian Democrats and also—perhaps more significantly—for the Socialists, who are thus encouraged to pursue the Centre-Left experiment on which they have embarked. Their ambitious and skilful leader, Signor Craxi, may be tempted to take this as a mandate for a further attempt to wrest the leadership of the government away from the Christian Democrats who have held it throughout the Republic's history. That would surely be wrong. If the electors have voted for anything, it is for the parties to spend less time forming governments and more time governing.

A new kind of incomes policy

From Lady Wootton of Abinger, CH
Sir, Incomes policies are again in (and on) the air—even in government circles—and so too are all the old objections to them. Incomes policies, we are reminded, have no flexibility with which to meet changes in the economic situation but merely rigidity, a structure which gets more and more out of touch with reality until it is eventually blown up in a wage explosion. Moreover a voluntary policy has never been taken seriously; while compulsion has always involved the creation of new bureaucratic machinery such as the National Board for Prices and Incomes, and its successor, the Pay Board.

Might I suggest in outline a policy designed to be equitable, flexible and enforceable, and one which would moreover require no additional officialdom? First it must be accepted that our previous so-called incomes policies have never derived their name, since they were merely wage and dividend policies. Equally demands that a genuine incomes policy should affect all incomes from whatever source they may have been derived, instead of imposing restrictions only on the earnings of employees, and on the rates of dividend payable by companies to their shareholders. If indeed we are all living on confined money, why should these classes alone carry the can for it? The employed population is the main source of our real income, and might well claim priority on that account, and the (plainly cosmetic) limitation of company dividends was grossly inequitable inasmuch as the sums paid to shareholders could not possibly be adjusted to the economic circumstances of the recipients.

Having thus conceded the principle of universality, would it not be logical to tack our "incomes policy" onto our existing tax system, and to the present scales and allowances an "excess income charge", payable on any excess of the taxpayer's gross income over the corresponding figure for the previous year? Again, this would mean merely applying to everybody the tax treatment as we attempted to apply to employed persons and to dividend recipients under previous so-called incomes policies.

This "excess income charge" would need to be graduated so that small incomes would get off more

lightly than large ones. In addition it would be necessary to provide for certain exemptions and allowances affecting only employed persons, as for example increments due under previously agreed incremental scales. (There are precedents for these and other such exemptions in the statutory income policy of the late nineteenth-century, but a new code would need to be drafted to suit the changed circumstances of today.)

What is, however, essential is that once an overall scale for permitted increases has been fixed, all exemptions and allowances should be written into the law. Only by prior definition of the criteria for recognition as "special cases" can we escape what happened under Mr Clegg's attempt to gain acceptance of a voluntary maximum wage increase of 10 per cent, whereupon group after group claimed (often with success) to be treated as "special cases" on grounds of their own desirability.

Parliament having thus fixed the rules and made the rules, the application of these to the individual taxpayer would be a matter requiring no new bureaucratic apparatus, but would be in the hands of the inspectors and collectors of taxes who are already in touch with taxpayers all over the country.

This, Sir, is a highly condensed sketch of a scheme about which I have been pondering for some time. It would, I hope, be equitable, inasmuch as it would cover everybody; it would be flexible inasmuch as Parliament would react or amend the rates and conditions of the new charge in its annual Finance Act; and would be operated by an existing public service of great efficiency and with nationwide coverage.

The proposal is based on the premise that monetarism by itself is not enough. Of course it is necessary to keep control of the money supply, but it is not equally necessary to monitor where the money that does get into circulation actually goes to? A monetarist without an incomes policy is like a man with one leg. He can only hop and stumble, and it looks as if before long, without his other leg, he is bound to fall flat on his face. Yours etc., WOOTTON OF ABINGER, House of Lords, June 6.

Maintenance of liberty

From Professor Alan Thompson
Sir, Your timely (and, in the event, decisive) editorial on the Bloomsbury premises of George Allen and Unwin (June 6) raised the problem of whether "morality and justice" can prevail against administrative expediency. It is extremely important that we go on asserting that there is a problem. For many years, in certain areas of academic teaching, the concepts of morality and justice have been slowly eroded, or treated sceptically as nothing more than bogey words to be rejected in various ongoing situations. The more superficial exponents of academic superiority must take some of the blame for this. Blame also lies (more excusably) with planners and administrators who see the defence of individual rights as an obstacle to the necessary pursuit of social objectives. Academic and professional courses on planning and administration understandably stress the need for professional excellence rather than the philosophy underlying individual rights.

The trouble is not, however, wholly local. Students of political philosophy are still exposed to the views of Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes, Locke, Rousseau, Mill and others whose writings have direct relevance to the issues raised in your editorial. More important, numerically, Faculty members in the social sciences are demonstrating how the rights of the individual can be defended and promoted in the context of social responsibility.

Montesquieu and Locke (among others) taught us that the individual can be most free under a system based on the separation of powers: the executive, the legislature and the judiciary. If the citizen, seeking redress, finds the same cold impassive face behind the three allegedly separate masks, he has truly lost his

liberty. It must be recognized that in Britain (and, it can be argued, for good reasons) the executive and legislature have grown too close together to represent independent forces (if, indeed, they really ever were as independent as Montesquieu believed). Nevertheless, the present growth of the select committees of the House of Commons shows that there is still a possibility of subjecting the executive to rigorous scrutiny over infringements of individual rights.

The House of Lords (albeit in need of reform) also provides safeguards against hasty and badly-drafted legislation passed by the Lower House, particularly where the Government, in its understandable concern with its timetable, has resorted to the guillotine.

The third arm—the judiciary—is still seen by ordinary citizens as the most vital safeguard against excesses, errors and excuses of administrative power. If judges are to be merely the passive spokesmen of the executive, it is difficult to see why we need them. Highly paid, expert civil servants could equally well fill this interpretative rôle. Indeed they would probably do it better. Furthermore if the Upper House is ever abolished, leaving us with single-Chamber government, the rôle of the law will become even more crucial in defending, in your words, "morality and justice" against "administrative oppression". One can only hope that our judges will not lose their nerve.

Perhaps the final lesson of your editorial (no less important in its sphere than Delane's exposure of administrative arrogance and indifference in the Crimean War) is that the individual citizen must continue to rely heavily on the powers of the Fourth Estate. Yours faithfully, ALAN THOMPSON, 11 Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh 9.

EEC and Middle East

From Mr Julian Amery, MP for Brighthelm Pavilion (Conservative)
Sir, At their meeting in Venice the leaders of the European Community are expected to propose, directly or indirectly, the involvement of the Palestine Liberation Organization in the Middle East peace negotiating process.

At their recent conference in Damascus, Al Fatah, Mr Arafat's group, the PLO, have affirmed their intention to overthrow the State of Israel, to overthrow the Sadat regime in Egypt, and to reestablish guerrilla bases in Jordan. This "programme" alone raises the question whether the PLO is a genuine approach to peace with the State of Israel. But there is a much graver objection to the proposed European initiative. Your leading articles have several times pointed out the paramount importance of securing the Union from coming to the Gulf and threatening the West's supplies of Middle Eastern oil. This threat is real and comes primarily from the Soviet military presence on Iran's northern border, in Afghanistan, in Ethiopia, in Aden and, to a lesser extent, in Syria. If Europe as such had a military presence in the area it might afford the luxury of an independent Middle Eastern policy. It has not. The only countervailing security for Europe's oil supplies (and Japan's) is provided by American military and naval power in the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean, including American facilities in Diego Garcia, Kenya, Somalia, Oman, Egypt and Israel. In this growing confrontation between East and West the PLO are openly on the Eastern side. Their links with Moscow are close and of long standing. The Fatah leaders at their Damascus conference have formally declared the United States to be their "main enemy". Can it then really be wise to offer the PLO aid and comfort even in an attenuated form?

No declaration made at Venice is likely to have any immediate

effect. But if it is openly favourable to the PLO, as foreseen, it will be taken as signalling to Moscow that Europe wishes to see the Soviet Union involved in any Middle East settlement. This may eventually be necessary but to embark on it now, from a position of military weakness and without wholehearted support from the United States, would be to run a wholly unnecessary risk for a tangible reward.

Yours faithfully, JULIAN AMERY, 112 Eaton Square, SW1, June 9.

Oppression of the Kurds

From Lord Kilbracken
Sir, This Society warmly welcomes your timely leading article (June 4) on the oppression of the Kurds. Reports received by us from the area in Iran where heavy fighting is in progress confirm the urgent need for medical supplies and food, especially for the past month. It is greatly to be hoped that pressure will be brought to bear on the Government in Tehran to allow the international relief organizations to provide these.

The British have a special responsibility for the plight of the Kurdish people. Your leader, rather unkindly, speaks of their having "missed the historical bus" after the First World War. In fact under the Treaty of Sevres, it was promised by the Allies that an autonomous Kurdish state would be established. It was only because they went back on their word in the Treaty of Lausanne that Kurdistan was dismembered. The Kurds had caught the bus, or thought they had, at Sevres; with notable perfidy the Allies threw them off it at the next stop.

Yours faithfully, NILBRACKEN, President, British Kurdish Friendship Society, House of Lords.

Civil Service levels of pay and privilege

From Lord Vauxey
Sir, Mr Hugh Stephenson's most interesting article on the relations between Ministers and the Civil Service (June 7) raises several issues, also referred to by Sir Geoffrey Howe in a speech reported on your front page. The one which is most interesting concerns Civil Service privilege.

At my university we appoint economists at several levels. Applications come to us from economists in the Civil Service. Consistently, now, for a decade or more, we have found that man for man, with roughly equal qualifications, the Civil Service is paying about 50 per cent more than we are.

It could be argued that academics are paid less because their lives are more agreeable, or their work less arduous, or their salaries were roughly on a par in the early 1960s, and, in any case, the civil servants retire at 60, have a non-contributory pension scheme and very long holidays.

In appointments of scientists, engineers and mathematicians I have noted that industry and commerce do not seem to pay more than we do, and of course in that sort of job there is considerable insecurity, perhaps offset to some degree by "perks" that we do not have, like free cars, subsidised meals, hefty expense accounts and so on.

I am driven to the conclusion from my experience, that civil servants seem to earn about 50 per cent more than other people in general. And at the top end of the scale the differences are enormous. The fairly average people at the top of the Civil Service have large incomes, automatic knighthoods (and in the case of the senior depart-

ments automatic peerages) and retire at 60 to the very best jobs in the private and public sectors. All this privilege is based upon so-called comparability research. Could we have access to the files and a full explanation of what seems a disquieting situation? Yours sincerely, VAIZEY, House of Lords.

From Sir Derek Mitchell
Sir, Naturally I was interested in Hugh Stephenson's comment in the extract from *Mrs Thatcher's First Year* in your issue of June 7, that a little local difficulty during my time at 10 Downing Street "has become part of the myth and legend of Whitehall". This was coupled with a reference to my being "banished" to the Embassy in Washington and to the remainder of my Civil Service career being "effectively blighted".

These are the facts. After leaving No 10 in 1966 I was successively Deputy Under Secretary of State in the Department of Economic Affairs; Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; Economic Minister in the Washington Embassy, and United Kingdom Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank; and Second Permanent Secretary (Overseas Finance) at the Treasury. Even more senior posts were offered to me before I left the Civil Service in 1977, but I wanted to do other things.

May I wish Mr Stephenson an equally bright career in his own profession. Yours sincerely, DEREK MITCHELL, 99 Bishopsgate, EC2.

Detention of immigrants

From Lord Avebury
Sir, May I add to the comments made by John Plummer of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (June 2) about the contribution made to overcrowding in British prisons by the detention of over 1,000 persons a year under the provisions of the 1971 Immigration Act?

Where a person is found guilty by the courts and given a non-custodial sentence, to which is added a recommendation to the Secretary of State for deportation, the convicted person remains in custody until the expiration of the time for bringing an appeal against the conviction or recommendation. This time is 21 days in the case of a magistrate's court's recommendation and 28 days in respect of a higher court. The person then has a further two weeks in which to appeal against the destination specified in the removal directions. Thus, whether or not he exercises his full rights, he will spend at least five weeks in custody and probably more because of additional factors such as the need to obtain a travel document.

Keeping the bridges open

From Dr Paul Steinitz
Sir, On May 25 I took my London Bach Society, Steinitz Bach Players and four professional soloists to Bulgaria to perform at the Bulgarians' request what they assured me was the first performance in that country of Bach's *Mass in B Minor*. Other music to religious texts—Bach's cantatas 131 and 140 and a Handel anthem—and a twentieth-century British work, Glasser's "Chameleon and the Lizard", were also included in a second programme.

Experiencing this tour created a feeling among every one of the 91 participants that the visit, generously sponsored by the British Council, was vitally important not only for the music, during the performance of which all seemed to give of their utmost to an unprecedented extent, but also for the personal contact and exchange of views between nations.

Everyone knows that music is an international language, but not since a visit which my London

Bach Society paid to the German Democratic Republic in 1964, only two years after the wall was built, have I felt how absolutely indestructible the power of music is to override the barriers which put up between the ordinary people of the world. These people are fundamentally friendly and are desperately keen to show that this is so to their counterparts in other countries. Many of the orchestra with experience of touring said how wonderful it was to have been able to pay a visit to a communist country at this time of East-West tension, and that we musicians must keep going to the East. It was felt that playing and singing Bach's *Mass* and his cantatas to packed halls and looking at the audience while they were looking at us and talking to them afterwards showed that they were entirely "with us", thus underlining the futility of man-made barriers. Yours faithfully, PAUL STEINITZ, The Athenaeum, Pall Mall, SW1, June 1.

BBC priorities

From the Manager of BBC Radio Lincolnshire
Sir, Mr John Copeland's assertion that the money spent on establishing BBC Radio Lincolnshire is disproportionate to the number of five orchestras is erroneous. It is not, and never has been, an "either/or" choice.

The BBC's financial difficulties mean it is having to make economies throughout the corporation and, regrettably, the house orchestra are just one area of saving. However, although these orchestras are being disbanded, most of the music that would have been played by them will be replaced by musicians employed on a freelance basis. The BBC is not aiming for a significant reduction of live music and intends to remain a major patron.

As far as BBC local radio is concerned, existing stations are bearing their fair share of savings, by helping to finance the new stations from their own resources. Further, Mr Copeland's "pop and pen" word picture does not describe the kind of programmes in station will be transmitting. Of course we will have music; but we will also be offering a wide range of news, information and public service announcements—the kind of formula enjoyed daily by BBC local radio's countrywide audience of 23 million.

Mr Copeland's assumption that many Lincolnians would be willing to forgo local broadcasting is belied by the 1,000 people who turned out recently to offer support in just one information day; and by hundreds of letters so far received from those offering to take part in our broadcasts.

Finally, I would have thought that in his capacity as Divisional Education Officer for Lincoln, and a contributor to the local evening paper, Mr Copeland would have been aware that it was as a result of strong representation from his employers—the Lincolnshire County Council—that the BBC made the county a priority for local radio development. Yours faithfully, ROY CORLETT, Broadcasting House, W1.

The energy crisis

From Mr K. L. Stretch
Sir, In all honesty, Professor Leslie should have omitted the last clause in his second paragraph today (June 6). For no one (in or out of the country) has even yet thinking about how we can pass without grave disruption from our present high energy consumption society to one with a much lower consumption on any time scale whatsoever. It is this indifference to a foreseeable necessity that worries many who have no inhibition against enjoying the benefits of any technological development, but recognize the need for rational and temperate conservation and exploitation. Yours faithfully, LEWIS STRETCH, 1 Manor Close, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire, June 6.

The ghost train

From Mr George Chowdhary-Best
Sir, Far be it from me to question Dr Judge's assertion (June 7) that a Cambridge man may be responsible for the timetable confusions he has noted on journeys to and from Oxford to Swindon. There could, however, be another explanation, namely, that the railway authorities have been confused by the imposition of British Summer Time and have reverted to an old system whereby the time varied according to wherever you happened to be. For example, in the 1850s, according to an exhibition in the Spencer Jones Gallery at the Old Observatory, Greenwich a few years ago, the 11.30 train for London left Swindon in Gloucestershire at 11.21. "Stroud time", which was no doubt just as confusing for travellers, in its way, as the difficulties to which he alludes. Yours faithfully, GEORGE CHOWDHARY-BEST (MA. Oxon), 174 Clay Hill Road, Basingdon, Essex, June 8.

JOINT COUNCIL FOR RAILWAY UNIONS

cient rivalry between unions has grown more in recent years, as the as on the industry have d. The TUC, which has r, if not the muscle, to feuds within the move-as put what pressure it the unions involved, re-way of living together, sk. Mr Sidney Weighell, secretary of the National Railwaymen, published s he has put to Mr Len for a joint council of trade unions. These prove not yet even been l by the NUR executive, at all certain that they e. At the same time, Mr has prepared a plan on lines which has not yet e public, but which the e of the NUR's main e Amalgamated Society motive Engineers and, are reported to have

the NUR is easily the union in the industry, its interests would tend to a unified grouping t is official NUR policy about). For generations, thwarted members of a higher paid elite, have anything of the kind. As developments have diminished their numbers and ed the basis of their relationship has grown

more uneasy. The issue is important not only because ill-defined demarcations cause disputes, but also because such rivalry, causing both sides to cling to what they have, seriously obstructs efforts to improved flexibility and efficiency. The financial state of the railways is now such that only major improvements in productivity can prevent further cuts in the network.

The defensive attitude of mind induced in ASLEF by its predicament is well illustrated by a speech yesterday made by Mr W. H. Ronksley, its president, at its annual assembly—celebrating the union's centenary by a recital in lugubrious style of all the woes which have ever beset it, including, naturally, the NUR (with examples going back to 1924, still kept green), incomes policy, the EEC, and also every single British Labour Government. Apart from such ceremonial addresses, the assembly (which will today be debating the proposals for joint council) conducts its affairs in conditions of secrecy.

It was a major advance when earlier this year all three rail unions found it possible to negotiate jointly with the management on pay for the first time—a development which, to Mr Weighell's discomfiture, was almost brought to nothing by the suspicions of his own executive.

Some more permanent institutional link between the unions is required. Mr Weighell's new plan would set up a joint council representing all three unions, and requires ASLEF and NUR each to cease recruiting in one of the two areas where they compete. The exact function of the joint council is left vague, but its construction would ensure that the smaller unions would enjoy considerably greater voice strength than their size would dictate. Initially, it would be little more than a forum of opinion, in which trust and a sense of common interest might grow.

It is not clear whether the offer on recruitment means that the NUR would give up its insistence that an NUR member promoted to a motorman grade must remain in NUR. If the union's intentions are genuinely constructive it should be ready to make concessions on this—it would lose little by allowing the individual to choose—which would apparently be acceptable to ASLEF. It is along these lines that an end to the age-old bitterness should be sought, and it is not in the interest of either union to allow its narrow claims to obstruct a development which could greatly benefit the industry and all those who work in it.

ROWING MOVEMENT FOR REFORM

a no respite for the Community. No sooner dealt with one crisis than looms up. The problem in its budgetary contribution to near insignificance put against the s posed by the enlarge- the Community to in-reece, Spain, Portugal key (whose application ent). In fact the arrange- o reduce the burden on e little more than stions to cover the efore the Community is o take apart and reform e system of financing d therefore by implica- s agricultural policy, some differences of e are emerging between and West Germany, and st German Social Demo- not been able to avoid ject at a special pre-congress which was e devoted largely to the immediate problems of t relations.

oday Herr Schmidt said outhout the indispensable ents to its agriculture nd without a more bal-tribution of burdens, munity cannot finance ks which face it in its

expansion southwards". On the face of it this looks similar to President. Giscard d'Estaing's suggestion last week that enlargement of the Community should be delayed until existing budgetary problems had been sorted out. However, yesterday Herr Brandt, who is less constrained by diplomatic responsibilities, went further in a speech that was apparently agreed with the Chancellor. He said that the common agricultural policy must be reformed from top to bottom, and that this must come soon "if the Community is not to perish". He called for strong public pressure and said that his party's economic committee should work out a plan for reform "not just any time but in the coming months". He said nothing about delaying enlargement.

The difference between this and the French view seems largely one of emphasis and timing, but the urgency of Herr Brandt's appeal reflects the West German view that the problems of enlargement must be squarely faced and not postponed. However, neither the postponement suggested by President Giscard nor the haste advocated by Herr Brandt provides a real answer. Reform and enlargement will

have to go hand in hand, since there is no point in agreeing reforms among the Nine that will not accommodate twelve or thirteen, and it is certainly impossible to accommodate twelve or thirteen without fundamental reforms.

That the impetus for reform should now come from West Germany is welcome, especially as Germany now gains more than France from the common agricultural policy. Probably the impetus will be somewhat curbed until after the autumn election because the Free Democrats need the farm vote if they are to scrape past the vital five per cent mark which entitles them to representation in parliament. And the Social Democrats may still need the Free Democrats as coalition partners if they are to form the next government. Nevertheless, this week's speeches should be seen as the starting signal for a serious move towards reforms in which Britain should also take an active part. It is a legitimate complaint in Europe that Britain is always criticizing the common agricultural policy but never says in any detail what should be put in its place.

mic research aims

Secretary General of the e of Vice-Chancellors and e of the Universities of the Kingdom
some ways it is rather e- d Dr Alderman (June d reproach universities for to recognition to research tent in our procedures for tion and promotion, More

frequently we are charged with recognizing only research and ignoring teaching competence.

In fact both charges are false. National agreements for the profession require that before any lecturer is confirmed in appointment after at least three years of probation, the universities must be satisfied as to his achievements in teaching and research. Universities must satisfy themselves that he or

she "shows promise by his/her work and enterprise of continuing to develop as a university teacher and a scholar". In these days of intense competition to enter and advance in a profession with diminishing opportunities, there is no shortage of incentive. Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY CASTON, 29 Tamstock Square, WC1, June 4.

In my first years as Minister for the Disabled up to May last year, the Labour government increased its spending on cash help for the chronically sick and disabled from £474 million to £1,574 million.

That included the cost of the four new benefits we introduced for disabled people and their families: the non-contributory invalidity pension for men and single women, the invalid care allowance for people looking after severely disabled relatives, the mobility allowance and the disabled housewives' benefit. It did not include the considerably extra cost of pensions for elderly disabled people which resulted from the link we forged between pensions and average industrial earnings in our Social Security Act 1975.

Spending on services for the chronically sick and disabled, not least for severely handicapped children, also rose markedly in Labour's five years of office. In all, we took more than 100 initiatives to improve the wellbeing and status of Britain's 3.1 million disabled.

Under the present Government there are cuts with more on the way for many of the most hard pressed disabled people. They are the unkindest cuts of all. For any cut in help for the disabled can reduce not only their standard of living but their freedom to live independent lives. The disabled person who is denied a service he needs can quickly find himself

at risk. While others suffer annoyance and inconvenience because of lower public spending he may have to face social isolation.

Conservative ministers make no bones about the low priority they give to disabled people compared with some other groups. Their decision to cut planned expenditure on the personal social services by 7 per cent directly affects severely disabled people who are struggling to stay independent in their own homes.

Even worse is the Government's decision to cut the value of the invalidity benefit paid to people who have been unable to work for more than six months because of sickness or disability. The Disablement Income Group has denounced this "cruelly unfair".

The Government has forecast (in my view with ridiculous optimism) that prices will have risen by 16½ per cent in the 12 months to November. Using this forecast, they are increasing retirement pensions and supplementary benefits by 16½ per cent from November.

In the past, invalidity benefit would have been increased in step with these other benefits. But now the law is being changed. From November, to save £50 million in a full year, people on invalidity benefit are to receive 5 per cent less than retirement and supplementary pensioners and thus the same amount less even than the

Government's own forecast of price increases.

This means that, for the single person, the real value of invalidity benefit (assuming a 16½ per cent rate of inflation) will drop from November by £1.15 a week. For a married couple, the Government's decision means a cut of at least £1.85 a week and £36.20 in a full year. What is more, it is the decision of a Government which, in its first year of office, crammed more than £1,500 million into the pockets of the richest 7 per cent of taxpayers.

It is hard to understand why even this Government should want to discriminate so brutally against people whose working lives have been cut short by sickness and disability. In their election manifesto, they promised to concentrate help on the sick and disabled and others in greatest need. In office, they are now going out of their way to cut the living standards of

hundreds of thousands of sick and disabled people who, as well as being poor, have little prospect of ever returning to work.

The only defence of its policy the Government has attempted is the plea that invalidity benefit will ultimately be taxed, and that the cut in its value is a short-term measure until that happens. When the benefit is taxed, they claim, subject to the availability of resources, the benefit will return to what it would have been had it stayed in step with the retirement pension.

That defence angers the national organizations of disabled people almost as much as the policy itself, for the facts are, first, that invalidity benefit cannot be taxed until after 1982, and secondly, that many people now receiving it do not pay tax. Indeed, in a parliamentary reply on April 16 (*Hansard*, col 605), the minister himself told me that there

Why single out the disabled for this extra suffering?

burden of an incurable illness on a poor family. If she does, why add to our punishment? Now that Mrs Thatcher must know more about the effect of the budget on such families, she should at least end the cruel farce of allowing her ministers to talk of "a caring Government" while singling out the weakest and poorest for an attack which my colleague Jack Ashley, using considerable restraint, has called "shabby and shoddy".

She should also realize that giving sick and disabled people the right help in the right place at the right time is as much in the interests of taxpayers and ratepayers as of the beneficiaries themselves. Disabled people denied adequate

financial support, forced into hospital institutional care, is more to look after than it does to be after themselves at. That is one important reason for the Labour Party's rapid and (but still incomplete) in spending on the sick and disabled explains why the Government's attack on pensioners and the likely to be as self-interest is inhumane.

Alfred
The author is *Lab* Manchester, *Wyke* was Minister for 1974-1975.

My husband is 44 and disabled by multiple sclerosis. He is a very sick man and yet his invalidity benefit is to be cut by at least 5 per cent. I wonder if Mrs Thatcher knows, or understands, the

could be as many as 400,000 invalidity pensioners below the tax threshold.

Many of the poorest 400,000 will die in the "short-term". Yet from November, in the first attempt for 50 years to reduce a national insurance benefit, their incomes will be cut by at least 5 per cent. If inflation exceeds the Government's forecast (as most people think it will) the cut will be harsher still. The inflation rate may well be as high as 19-20 per cent and, in that case, the standard of living of many of the poorest chronically sick and disabled will fall by no less than 8 per cent.

Mrs Thatcher said of the Budget that it "protects the weak and is fair to all". Unless that was pure cynicism she could not then have known of its implications for invalidity pensioners. Let her listen, therefore, to the wife of a disabled man who lives not far from her own constituency:



How parents can fill the school equipment gap for their children

Schools all over the country are appealing to parents to contribute to the spiralling costs of textbooks, stationery and other items that the local authority would normally be expected to provide. Should parents do so, and what is the most efficient way to raise funds?

It is a real dilemma for many parents to decide whether they should dig into their own pockets to make up for the deficiencies in their children's maintained schools and then risk their voluntary contributions becoming expected donations; or whether to make a fuss, protest impotently about the cuts, and meanwhile watch their children's education deteriorate.

Is there not a minimum that an education authority should provide in schools? A fortnight ago, Mr Mark Carlisle, the Education Secretary, sparked a furore when he told the National Association of Head Teachers' conference that parents should be encouraged to make voluntary contributions to the cost of their children's education, and that he saw no difference in principle between helping to pay for a school microprocessor and buying textbooks needed for O level examinations.

Last weekend Mr Carlisle wisely decided to amend that statement. There was no suggestion of going back on the clear statutory duty on local education authorities to provide free of charge sufficient education for the children in their area, he said. Nor was there any question of demanding direct payment towards schools or essential school materials.

However, a recent survey by *The Times Educational Supplement* (report May 9) showed that some schools were asking parents for contributions for what certainly used to be considered basics, including textbooks, writing materials and teaching equipment. How far can a local authority go in cutting provision before it is in breach of the law?

Under Section 8 of the 1944 Education Act a local education authority has a duty to provide "sufficient schools" for its area: they will not be deemed sufficient unless they are sufficient in number, character and equipment to afford for all pupils opportunities for education offering such variety of instruction and training as may be desirable in view of their different ages, abilities and aptitudes.

Section 61 of the same Act stipulates that "no fees shall be charged in respect of admission to any school maintained by a local education authority... or in respect of the education provided in any such school".

Mr Alistair Lawton, chairman of the Association of County Councils' education committee, has said the association would prefer the law to be changed

to enable councils to make an appeal to parents to contribute to education costs, rather than a system of voluntary contributions which inevitably leads to greater disparities between schools. He does not see why education, which accounts for nearly 70 per cent of an education authority's expenditure, should continue to be borne entirely on the rates.

Many would maintain that some local authorities have been in breach of Section 8 of the Act for years and that schooling in their areas has never been "sufficient". This view is supported by the findings of the Inspectorate for Schools' recent survey of secondary schools, which showed that 40 per cent of schools did not have enough laboratories and about half had an inadequate supply of science textbooks.

Several schools were found where children were not provided with a copy of the mathematics textbooks "needed for systematic study". In some schools only the most able classes had books issued to them. More than a quarter of schools had inadequate libraries. And that was the situation in 1975-76, before the big cuts in expenditure.

The National Confederation of Parent Teachers Associations and all the main teachers' unions are strongly opposed to fund-raising for "basics". Both the National Union of Teachers and the National Association of Head Teachers have told their members not to take part in any activities designed to replace what the local authority should be providing. But where is the dividing line between "basics" and "extras"?

The 4,000 members of the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations are registered charities. Under a model constitution drawn up by the confederation and approved by the Charity Commission, their activities are limited to providing facilities "not normally provided by the local education authority".

But what is "normal provision", and would an association risk losing its charitable status if it ignored that clause? The Charity Commission has just issued guidance explaining that "if something is not being provided by the local education authority, it would be open to the parent-teacher associations to provide the items". Where, for example, only five textbooks were provided for a class of 30 pupils, it would be perfectly proper for an association to provide the extra 25 books, a commission spokesman said.

Given, then, that schools will be looking more and more to parents to provide all kinds of things from pencils to theatres and computers, what is the best way of going about it? Most maintained schools reckon they have done well if they manage to raise £2,000 a year. They have long looked enviously at the highly-successful fund-raising activities of the inde-

pendent schools who raised more than £

Now some state beginning to real professional help in fu perhaps more im having pupils with and that the ann fete is not good; comprehensive, School in Bristol Heston School shire, have recent help of Craigmile, a fessional fund-raise experience in the school sector.

With Craigmile's has raised £58,000 nine months; Heme has raised £32,000 a year. Craigmile services free as the deal with con before. The undool of the experiment company to organia seminar on June 18, Bristol on June 18, attended by head 40 maintained sch Somerset and Avon.

Mr James Bell director of Craigmile the past has helped Harrow, Rugby, Malvern, in fact he fund-raising in schools should not thing that should be the state.

Hemel Hempstead 900 pupils, is to up to renovate and dilapidated wing o mansion into a music to redecorate the school. Of the £32,000 raise but £600, which cam industry, was raised by parents, includ the least well-off an some of the most local authority has give about £25,000 Filton, which has has raised £26,000 parents and £3,000 industry and trust.

James, the Bristol is, has promised to ever the school's raise in 10 years o mum of £50,000. The parents at F just decided how to the £360 interest £10,000 cash already The money will go three-week exchange pupils to France; former's trip to map Canada; a four-day to an international meeting in France; trolley for the PE do an advanced maths for eight A level Southampton Univ weekend visit by a railway society, to an extra trumpet for orchestra and a field Bristol for a class children.

Despite the headline cuts, some schools a ing to provide the j as the bread and bu

Diana Education Cor

Forecast: Wet and Dry

When you come to think of it, rain has much to recommend it.

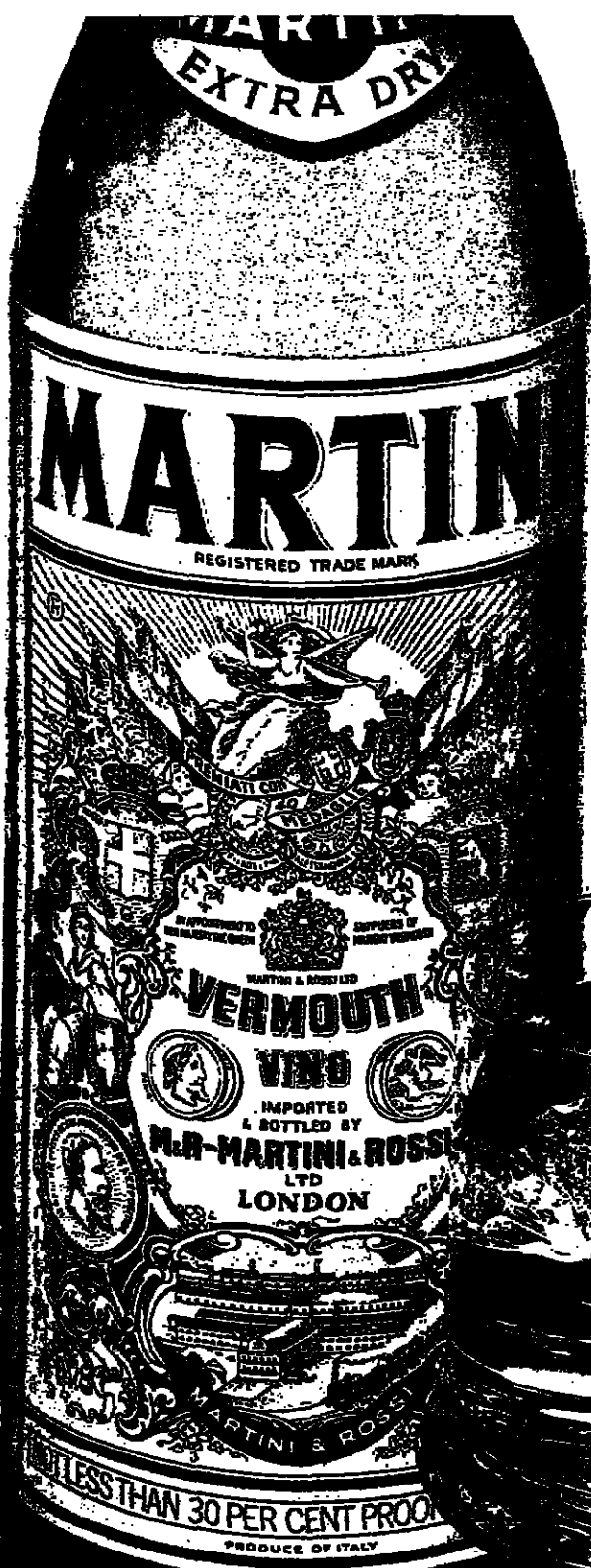
Forced to remain indoors, one relies on one's own resources.

Which, with a bit of foresight, should include plenty of ice and Martini Dry, with its clean, fresh blend of fine wines and herbs.

Thus, every raincloud has a silver lining, because when it rains, it pours.

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ductions
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statue of Sir Winston Churchill in Parliament Square is for Ivor Roberts Jones, not Mr Ivor Nemon as stated in a report June 7. A statue of Sir Winston Churchill is in the Members' Hall, House of Commons.	Edgbaston £178,766 Wheat, Mr Reginald Arthur, of Cheadle, Staffordshire, testatore 519,180 Williamson, Mr James Bernard, of Pinner £141,289 Woolgar, Mr Frank Skinner, of
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active Aero-Engineering Plant at
 Perth, later he will visit
 the new head office and reception
 centre of Arthur Bell and Sons
 in Perth, later he will visit
 the Lawn Tennis Club and
 the Springland Village for the

Notable interpreter of Brechtian roles

He is rather the leader of a band
—even if he sometimes gets ahead
of the band.

1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific requirements of the task.

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, June 2. Dealings End, June 13. § Contango Day, June 16. Settlement Day, June 23.

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CHANGES

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

CESTER...
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Call John Brown
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Ext 6760

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Victory for moderates as Opec agrees \$2 a barrel rise for certain oil prices

From Nicholas Hirst
Algiers, June 10

A fragile compromise was agreed yesterday by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries which will put some oil prices up by \$2 a barrel. As it stands it will mean only small rises in United Kingdom petrol prices and no increase in the price of North Sea oil. It may be seen as a victory for the moderates in Opec led by Saudi Arabia.

But it is far from clear that the compromise will hold, and that could lead to a further spiralling of prices if demand in the consuming countries rises later this year. A new "benchmark" of \$22 a barrel has been fixed, from which all countries will calculate the prices of their own crude according to their quality and the cost of their delivery to a maximum of \$37. Saudi Arabia, Opec's lowest cost producer at the moment, has not agreed immediately to impose the necessary \$4 rise to bring its price to the new \$32 figure. Also no country has

agreed either to cut its official price or any of the surcharges which have been imposed. Saudi Arabia has given no definite date to increase its price but the \$37 maximum is to last for three months when Opec finance and oil ministers are to meet again. As a result, the agreement repeats the two-tier system agreed a year ago at Geneva when Saudi Arabia sold at a floor price of \$18 and other countries charged up to \$25.50. This, the difference between the lowest and highest producer will be \$9. It is thought that Saudi Arabia may raise its price in two \$2 stages.

Iraq, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela and Kuwait are all expected to raise their prices in line with the new benchmark. Despite heavy pressure from some countries, including Iran and Nigeria, there has been no precise agreement on coordinated production cuts. Mr Ali Akbar Moinefar, the Iranian oil minister, said a voluntary agreement had been reached. "Everyone has agreed

to reduce their production according to their individual circumstances on a voluntary basis. All agreed to do something.

This means that Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani has won the day. The Saudi Arabian oil minister has always maintained that the setting of production levels was a matter for each nation to fix itself, not for Opec to coordinate. It seems the Saudi Arabians intend to wait to see if the \$5 differential between the benchmark and the maximum price holds before it cuts back its own output from the present high level of 9.5 million barrels a day to its preferred long-term production of 8.5 million barrels a day.

Mr Humberto Caleron, the Opec president and Venezuelan oil minister, said that Opec production was two million barrels a day over the target. A Saudi Arabian production cut is an essential component of cutting back Opec supply to keep its prices firm.

Bank figures disappoint markets

By Michael Clark

Dealers completely misjudged yesterday's dismal banking figures, which succeeded in halting one of the strongest market rallies in several weeks. Hopes of some good news from the banking sector which might have led to an early cut in MLR attracted the big institutional buyers, which had been absent in any force for a number of weeks. Prices were quickly marked higher at the start of trading yesterday after the appearance of two leading merchant banks, which had anticipated picking several bargains ahead of the afternoon's banking figures.

Most of the activity had been centred on the gilt market in early dealings where prices had been firm all week. This presented itself as an opportune moment for the Government Broker to activate the new medium "tap" stock, which he promptly sold at £1 above the offer price.

Elsewhere in longs, gains were soon extended by between £1 and £1.5 while at the shorter end prices were trading just below overnight levels. But the release of the banking figures soon changed all that.

Jobbers who had been surprised by the worse-than-anticipated figures were soon marking prices sharply lower. But they failed to stem the tide of selling that followed.

Equities, too, reacted quickly, with prices again marked lower by market men anxious not to take any more stock on board. Nevertheless, although some sellers appeared, the scale was not the level encountered in gilts, and the lower level was soon attracting buyers hoping to pick up bargains. In the meantime, speculative situations and several major companies' reports also helped to cushion the fall.

Among these, full year figures from Allied Breweries were above most market expectations and well received, with the shares climbing 2 1/2 p. Favourable interim figures from Grand Metropolitan provided a 3p rise at 142p but a disappointing statement clipped 2p from International Timber.

In spite of this, the FT Index was flitting towards the close, showing a rise of 4.9 at 440.3 after touching 8.3 at 2 p.m. Financial Editor, page 23

Industry aid review

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has called for an urgent review of the role of local authorities in assisting industry and commerce, particularly small businesses. Representatives from central and local government have been asked to report before the end of next month.

PRICE CHANGES

Item	Unit	Price
Bank buys	£100	109.50
Bank sells	£100	110.50
3m T-bill	£100	110.50
6m T-bill	£100	110.50
12m T-bill	£100	110.50
3m Govt bond	£100	110.50
6m Govt bond	£100	110.50
12m Govt bond	£100	110.50
3m Corp bond	£100	110.50
6m Corp bond	£100	110.50
12m Corp bond	£100	110.50

THE POUND

Item	Unit	Price
Bank buys	£100	109.50
Bank sells	£100	110.50
3m T-bill	£100	110.50
6m T-bill	£100	110.50
12m T-bill	£100	110.50
3m Govt bond	£100	110.50
6m Govt bond	£100	110.50
12m Govt bond	£100	110.50
3m Corp bond	£100	110.50
6m Corp bond	£100	110.50
12m Corp bond	£100	110.50

Chancellor supports formal talks on pay and the economy

By Caroline Atkinson

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, told the German Chamber of Commerce in Bonn yesterday that Britain needed an effective counterpart to the German "concerted action" whereby unions, employers and Government discussed pay and the economy. He emphasized the importance of the National Economic Development Council as a forum for the Government and both sides of industry in Britain.

However, Sir Geoffrey did not appear to be suggesting an informal pay policy or to be holding out an olive branch to the unions. He said that "all those concerned in wage bargaining have to face up to economic realities" and the Government had a responsibility to get these realities understood.

"In the labour markets we are going through the painful process of restoring the half-forgotten techniques of responsible collective bargaining, free from any interference from government," the Chancellor said.

The Government was concerned to get home the message that people should accept lower living standards and wage rises that were below the rate of inflation.

CBI intensifies pressure

By Michael Hatfield

Pressure on the Government to reduce interest rates intensified last night when Tory backbenchers were told that the Confederation of British Industry was seeking flexibility in economic policy.

Sir John Greenborough, deputy president of the CBI, told the Tory backbench industrial group: "We have not pushed the panic button yet. What we are trying to do is get some flexibility before we reach a crunch."

But the Prime Minister's comments in the Commons yesterday cannot have given the CBI much hope for early relief. When asked whether he thought the number of redundancies and closures had not-

be put into cold storage for a while."

He referred, somewhat surprisingly, to a declining number of people in Britain, who thought that the Government would be forced to change course and adopt a less uncomfortable economic path.

Sir Geoffrey also stressed that the presence of North Sea oil did not mean Britain could afford to subsidize farmers in other EEC countries.

The Chancellor said he sometimes thought it "unfair to dwell on this United Kingdom resource as if it were something exceptional, when others have different natural endowments, some of which may be more lasting."

The Chancellor reaffirmed that Britain would not join the European Monetary System of fixed exchange rates for the time being.

The Government believed exchange rate stability was important and would like sterling to join the scheme when possible, but the present strength and volatility of the pound and the unpredictable effect of North Sea oil on its value, meant that the Government was unwilling to commit itself to a fixed exchange rate now.

Europe could also benefit from "freer" air travel, Sir Geoffrey said. He remarked that Britain had set the ball rolling for liberalizing air travel in Europe, encouraging more competition which would probably lead to lower fares.

She said many companies found that British exports have kept up well and they were increasing productivity. "Unless we keep that increase in productivity we shall not be the healthy industries which are the only basis for expansion."

Sir John gave a warning of a battering down by industry and said that the pressure for a return to real profitability had come more rapidly and extensively than expected. There were limits on running business for cash and maintaining liquidity without investing for the future.

Latest change in ownership the third since 1973 Still a British tissue to cry on

Patriotic buyers of tissues and kitchen towels will be pleased to learn that half of British Tissues, the main United Kingdom tissue manufacturer, is remaining in British hands despite this week's change of ownership, the third in seven years.

Formed in late 1966 to ensure a British share of the tissue market in the face of dominant American competition, British Tissues was originally owned by four public companies: Peter Dixon and Sons, Inveresk, and Wiggins Teape and Smith & Nephew through Associated Tissues.

But in August 1973, Peter Dixon and Inveresk sold their shares to two Finnish groups, Serlachius and Oy Nokia. Last November Serlachius sold its 25 per cent stake to Oy Nokia, leaving Oy Nokia 50 per cent; and now Wiggins Teape is selling its half of Associated Tissues to Smith & Nephew for £3.1m. That gives Smith & Nephew 100 per cent of Associated Tissues and, therefore, 50 per cent of British Tissues. Smith & Nephew and Wiggins Teape have been discussing the deal

off and on since the start of 1980. Smith & Nephew has issued 4.67 million new shares, subsequently placed by its brokers Carr Seligson on behalf of Wiggins Teape at 66p, to raise the £3.1m consideration.

British Tissues is now picking up after 2 to 3 years of dull performance. It makes paper handkerchiefs, toilet paper and kitchen towels under the "Dixcel" brand, and has between 20 and 25 per cent of the British market. Major competitors are American owned, Bowater Scott and Kimberley Clark, and the three groups have 80-85 per cent of the total United Kingdom market between them.

In 1979, British Tissues made £2.3m pre-tax on net assets of £15.5m; but Smith & Nephew now exports pre-tax profits for 1980 of close on £4m. Smith & Nephew's share of that will provide a useful boost to its associate profits at a time when its own interests are facing tough trading.

Smith & Nephew's first

NEB set to review Inmos future

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Editor

After confusing replies on the subject of the National Enterprise Board's Inmos semiconductor subsidiary in the Commons earlier this week by Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, it now appears highly likely that the NEB will itself make another assessment of the Inmos project.

Sir Keith was questioned in the Commons on Monday on his delay in deciding whether or not to approve a second £25m tranche of NEB investment in Inmos. Sir Keith said: "Proposals are being considered by the parties concerned, but they are commercially confidential and there is nothing I can say about them at present."

He added: "There is a commercial interest in Inmos from the private sector which the NEB is now testing."

A spokesman for the NEB said yesterday that the board could neither confirm nor deny Sir Keith's indication that private-sector proposals were being considered by the board. The official position was that the NEB, having itself approved the

second £25m for Inmos, was still awaiting the Government's decision.

But it was apparent yesterday that Sir Keith's replies in the House had come as a surprise both to the NEB and to officials in the Department of Industry. The recently publicized interest by the General Electric Company in a possible stake in Inmos has now definitely evaporated, both GEC and the NEB have said, and the suggestion that other interests are now actively negotiating with the board has proved difficult to confirm.

Sir Keith said he believed the NEB would take into account a suggestion by Mr Michael Grynlls, MP, that the Government should let its first £25m investment in Inmos mature before deciding on the second.

Behind the confusion created by Sir Keith's continuing delay over the £25m and his replies on Monday, it appears the NEB now has sound reasons for reassessing the Inmos project. Clearly there are two situations to consider: the original Inmos plan in which the shareholders comprise the NEB and Inmos founders and employees; and a revised plan in which outside private investment would also be involved.

The future of the semiconductor company is being questioned, partly because a number of factors have changed since the original plan was approved and—more recently—confirmed by the "new" NEB board. Market and cost assessments, the effect of the change in the relative value of the pound against the dollar, and the strength of the competition, are being questioned.

Also relevant are the continuing difficulties and arguments over the decision to build the company's first United Kingdom factory in Bristol. Members of Parliament, including former ministers, have urged Inmos to locate the factory in an assisted area; and most recently the Ministry of Agriculture has objected to a planning application to change the proposed site from agricultural to light industrial use.

Prospects for Inmos have grown more uncertain as Sir Keith's delay has extended to about five months, and the company's founders have begun to dust off their contingency plans. Dr Richard Peat, managing director, has spoken of alternative sources of finance in the United States, and has given a June 30 deadline for a decision by the Government.

Ferranti chiefs press for sale intervention

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Senior directors of Ferranti yesterday embarked on a political campaign aimed at persuading ministers to intervene in the proposed sale by the National Enterprise Board of its stake in the electronics group.

Mr Adam Butler, Minister for Industry, yesterday met three senior directors of the company at the House of Commons for what Whitehall termed a presentation of the group's prospects and hopes against the background of the NEB's commitment to disposing of its 50 per cent shareholding in the company.

Present at the meeting were Mr Sebastian Ferranti, chairman, Mr Basil Ferranti, deputy chairman, and Mr Derek Alun-Jones, the Ferranti chief executive.

A major difference of opinion has developed between the company's directors and the NEB under the chairmanship of Sir Arthur Knight on the most suitable method of disposing of the NEB's interest.

The NEB has taken the view apparently that it should seek to dispose of its holding, preferably to a single bidder, in one operation. But the company has indicated that it would prefer the state holding company's stake to be sold to institutions through the City and ensure that the Ferranti family's stake of 20 per cent is maintained.

There are other differences of opinion too with the board of the electronics group expressing a preference for a phased sale of the NEB stake with perhaps 25 per cent of the NEB interest being floated to give employees the opportunity to acquire a stake in the company, and the balance being retained.

At the heart of the dispute is the NEB's adherence to the proposed new guidelines for the NEB operation which place considerable emphasis on securing the best possible deal for taxpayer's. Those draft guidelines will not be formalized until the January Bill now before Parliament is enacted.

The Ferranti board was expected to have stressed in its talks with Mr Butler that a major consideration should be the commercial health of the company.

At least 10 potential bidders have shown an interest in acquiring the NEB holding in Ferranti although the board will not take a decision until later this month after publication of Ferranti's results for last year.

Bedford truck imports

Bedford, Vauxhall's commercial vehicle subsidiary, is to import pick-up trucks made by Isuzu of Japan, in which General Motors, the Vauxhall parent company, has a 34 per cent stake.

Steel plant closure plan imminent

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

British Steel Corporation is expected to reveal the timetable for the closure of its works at Consett, County Durham, later this week. Nearly 4,000 jobs are threatened.

The industry's main unions have pledged to fight the closure of the Consett works because there is no alternative employment in the area. Their opposition was reinforced last week by a meeting of the TUC's steel industry committee.

Closure at Consett was part of the retrenchment programme announced by British Steel in December. The corporation plans to reduce its steelmaking

capacity to 15 million tonnes and reduce its labour force by 30,000.

Since the steel strike ended, BSC has been encouraged by its progress achieved over slimming down both operations and labour at its two large plants at Port Talbot and Llanwern in South Wales.

But the unions, principally the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation and the National Union of Blastfurnacemen seem determined to take a strong stand to prevent the Consett closure. A joint action committee has been formed at the works to fight the plan.

Mr William Sims, general secretary of the ISCT, said last

night: "We know that the BSC want to close Consett but I warn them that if they take any step in that direction we shall fight them tooth and nail."

R. W. Shakespeare writes: Negotiations between BSC and the unions over a bonus scheme linked to a plan for 900 more redundancies at the Shorton steelworks on the Tees have run into problems but talks will continue, a union spokesman said yesterday.

Management is offering bonuses of up to 10 per cent to the 3,400 workers who will be left on the cold rolling operations at Shorton when the redundancies, planned for the end of this month, take place.

1,000 jobs for North East

Findus, the frozen food company, is to build a £30m factory employing up to 1,000 at Longbenton, near Newcastle upon Tyne.

Mr Dick Coburn, managing director of Findus, the second largest frozen food manufacturer in Britain, said: "The investment of £30m in a new factory in these days of economic gloom and doom is a statement of faith in Britain, in the prospects of my company and in the quality of our prospective workforce on Tyneside."

The factory, Findus said, will be a showpiece of North East industry and will be completed in 1983; its site will occupy 41 acres.

It will have a capacity of more than 20,000 tonnes of frozen food products a year and will make extensive use of micro-chip technology, Mr Coburn said.

Mr Coburn added: "One of the factors that persuaded us was the willingness of the people of this region to put in a fair day's work for a fair day's pay."

Japanese study sugar proposal

Tokyo, June 10.—Japanese trading houses are studying an Australian proposal that they sign a fixed-price contract to buy about 800,000 tonnes of raw sugar annually over five years from July, 1981, trading sources here said.

The proposal was made by CSR Ltd, the marketing agent for the Australian sugar industry, to several trading houses. The contract would replace an agreement between CSR and a group of 33 Japanese refiners for the supply of 600,000 tonnes of raw sugar annually.



GRAND METROPOLITAN LTD

INTERIM REPORT FOR 1980

During the first six months of the current year consumer demand in our main trading areas in the UK has been held back by inflation, higher indirect taxes and other effects of our national economic problems. In addition, the strength of Sterling has adversely affected exports and tourism, and reduced the Sterling equivalent of overseas profits. I am pleased to report that in these difficult circumstances group sales increased by 16.2% to £115.9 m. and profit before interest increased by 16.2% to £84.5 m. The increase in interest charges is mainly due to higher interest rates and to increased borrowings for investment, including the acquisition of 9.5% of the Common Stock of Liggett Group Inc. Average U.K. base rate increased from about 12.2% last year to about 16.25% — the highest average level in the history of the group. These factors more than offset the interest savings resulting from the right issue last June.

£61.2 m. The country's economic difficulties continue, and may worsen, but I remain confident that with hard work our natural advantages will enable us to continue our progress.

I am pleased to announce that we now control about 90% of the Common Stock of Liggett. This important U.S. acquisition will substantially increase our growth potential and provide a better spread of risks and opportunities. It is intended to consolidate the results of Liggett with the rest of the group from 1st June, 1980, although we do not anticipate any major increase in profits in the current year from this acquisition. The Board has decided to pay an interim dividend for the year ended 30th September, 1980, of 2.875p per share (1979-2.5p) on 6th October, 1980, to shareholders on the register on 29th August, 1980. The cost of the interim dividend will amount to £14.7 m. (1979-£12.8 m.).

10th June, 1980
MAXWELL JOSEPH
Chairman

	Half year to 31st March 1980	Half year to 31st March 1979	Year to 30th September 1979
External Sales	Notes	£m	£m
Hotels, entertainment, catering and managed public houses		286.8	252.6
Milk and food		243.6	213.4
Brewing and distribution, including soft drinks		231.5	207.1
Wines and spirits		255.8	217.8
Betting and gaming		134.1	102.0
		1,153.9	992.9
Trading Profit			
Hotels, entertainment, catering and managed public houses		18.8	18.1
Milk and food		13.6	11.9
Brewing and distribution, including soft drinks		18.7	17.1
Wines and spirits		23.6	18.5
Betting and gaming		8.4	5.1
		82.1	70.7
Share of profits of associated companies		2.4	2.1
Profit before interest		84.5	72.8
Interest		23.3	22.1
Profit before Taxation		61.2	50.7
Taxation		18.4	13.7
Profit after Taxation		42.8	37.0
Minority shareholders' interests		1.4	0.8
Parent company preference dividends		0.2	0.2
Profit attributable to ordinary shareholders before extraordinary items		41.2	36.0

Notes on Results
1. Foreign currencies have been converted to Sterling at the rates ruling at the end of each period.
2. The 1979 figures for trading profit have been adjusted to reflect the depreciation of freehold property.
3. The charge for taxation is estimated on the basis that U.K. corporation tax will be 52% (1979-52%) and includes revenue taxation of £2.6 m. (1979-£2.6 m.).
4. It is assumed that extraordinary items for the half year to 31st March, 1980, will give rise to a net credit of £1.8 m.

Catherine Gunn



Poor trade prospects for EEC, report says

The European Commission, in a document prepared for this week's EEC summit in Venice, has painted a bleak picture of world trade development in 1980.

It said the outlook was especially bad for the Community because of the position of its two main trading partners; there was a prospect of zero growth in Japan's total imports of manufactures and the American market was "shrouded in uncertainty".

Japan needed to create "a healthier relationship" with the Community by increasing its imports of manufactured goods and farm products, the Commission said.

World trade is expected to be an important topic at the EEC leaders' two-day meeting beginning tomorrow.

Yen holdings

The Japanese finance ministry has told Japanese and foreign banks not to increase outstanding balances of yen held by foreigners in Japan. These accounts are estimated to total the equivalent of £2,127m.

Aiming for quality

Chrysler is so determined to improve the quality control of its Volkswagen of America that it has lured at least nine middle management executives from Volkswagen.

Fall in orders

The preliminary April index of the volume of orders received by West German manufacturing industry dropped by 4.5 per cent to 108 (1976 equals 100) from 113 in March. The value index of April orders stood at 123, down 3.9 per cent from 128 in March.

Norwegian prices

Norway's consumer price index rose by 0.9 per cent from 162.2 to 163.6 (1974=100) between April 15 and May 15. It stood 9.4 per cent higher than this level in May last year.

Lockouts legal

The West German federal labour court has declared that lockouts of workers by employers are legal in a dispute. A number of trade unions had asked the court to decide whether lockouts were permissible under the West German constitution.

Price index up

The French index of industrial wholesale prices (1962=100) rose by 0.2 in April to 275.9.

BP zinc bid

British Petroleum has offered to buy the 50 per cent share held by Compagnie Royale des Mines de Zinc of Belgium in Norzink, a zinc smelter at Odda in Norway, for an undisclosed sum. The remaining share of the company is held by Botiden, of Stockholm.

Subsidiary for sale

A Philips subsidiary is to apply to the West German cartel office to sell German-based subsidiary, Kabelwerke Reinshagen GmbH to General Motors.

More Canadian jobs

Canada's seasonally adjusted jobless rate was 7.8 per cent in May, up from 7.5 per cent in April. A total of 89,700 were out of work.

Fewer unemployed

Unemployment in Denmark averaged 167,163 during April, 6.4 per cent of the workforce against 6.6 per cent in March.

Economic climate and foreign competition blamed for falling book sales

Bleak outlook for UK publishing industry

Britain's publishing industry is now firmly in the grip of a recession that could result by the end of the year in tightly squeezed profit margins, fewer companies, a cut-back in titles and jobs, and higher prices, according to the London-based Publishers' Association.

Many leading book publishers have been disclosing big drops in profits and have been forced into job reductions. They blame the Government's restrictions on public sector spending, inflation, the strength of sterling and high interest rates, and fierce foreign competition.

The effects have been seen in the results of companies such as Penguin Books, which made a loss of £478,000 in the first half of last year and is now making 50 people redundant and cutting its publishing programme by 22 per cent.

Penguin estimates it lost overseas sales in 1979 worth about £400,000, chiefly because of the strength of the pound.

Collins has axed 600 jobs at its Glasgow plant and recently BPC, the former British Printing Corporation, said it was heading for a substantial loss in the first half of the current year. The company said that

printing disputes and the consequent loss of work to European competitors had cost the group £3m so far this year.

Mr Clive Bradley, secretary to the Publishers' Association, said: "There are a good many companies that are finding themselves severely squeezed. This is a heavy stock-holding industry and this, plus items like authors' advances, are expensive to finance. Combined with the high value of sterling and the enormous damage that this has done to exports, and you have an extremely worrying picture."

Publishers were being badly hit by public spending cuts. Sales of books and literature to schools, universities and libraries account for almost 50 per cent of the United Kingdom industry's turnover.

Latest Government figures covering the fourth quarter of 1979 show that the value of exports dropped by 10 per cent on a year earlier, with paperbacks suffering a 40 per cent decline, hardback fiction down by a third and children's books down by 25 per cent.

The Christmas trade boosted the home market sales in the three months rising in value by 8 per cent.

Mr Bradley said: "Latest reports, however, are that publishers are worried about home sales as well. There has been substantial de-stocking by bookshops and in terms of numbers of titles we must anticipate a major contraction this year."

Publishers faced a 20 per cent increase in printing costs last year, largely because of rising wages, and a similar increase is forecast this year.

"We are very alarmed that if printers pass on to publishers either books or a great many more than at present will be printed abroad."

Although book prices had kept in line with the retail price index in the last decade, a more sizable increase was now possible and publishers would be forced into making some "very gloomy" decisions, Mr Bradley said.

A recent report by Cambridge Econometrics forecast a 5 per cent fall this year in United Kingdom demand for books, newspapers, magazines and other printed matter. Output of books was expected to fall by 4.3 per cent and printed packaging by 6.6 per cent.

Edward Townsend

Divergent forecasts for Britain's trade

By Caroline Atkinson

Economic forecasters are all expecting a drop in output this year of more than 1 per cent. Inflation of more than 17 per cent for the year as a whole is predicted by all the private forecasters.

The Treasury is most optimistic

on price inflation; its budget forecast showed this running at 16.5 per cent by the last quarter of this year.

But there are widely differing views about trade prospects. Hoare & Govett expects this to grow by an astonishing 5.7 per cent in volume this year, helping to shrink the balance of

payments deficit to £200m. At the other end of the scale Cambridge Econometrics forecast a 2.3 per cent drop in exports with a payments deficit of £2,000m, and the Treasury forecast a slight rise in exports but a £2,750m current account deficit because of continuing strong growth in imports.

FORECASTS FOR THE BRITISH ECONOMY

	NIESR (May)	LBS (Feb)	HG (June)	CE (June)	STJ (June)	P&D (May)	Treasury (Mar)
	Year 1980 on Year 1979 (% change between years unless otherwise stated)						
Gross domestic product	-1.1	-1.7	-1.4	-3.1	-2.6	-2.4	-2.5
Inflation	17.2	17.7	19.2	20.4	18.4	18.9	16.5
Unemployment (000)	1,600 ²	1,478	1,530	1,800	1,570	1,472	n.a.
Consumer spending	2.4	-0.7	-0.4	-1.9	0.6	0.5	1
Private investment in housebuilding	-4.2	-4.7	-1.9	-5.3	-1.1	-1.8	1
Public investment in housebuilding	-6.3	-3.5	-6.5	-17.6	-12.2	-8.6	-17.6
Public authorities consumption	-0.4	-0.2	-0.1	+0.9	0.5	-2.3	0
Stockbuilding (Em 1975)	-8	-600	-313	-200	-850	-250	-450
Exports	2.8	4.5	5.7	-2.3	-0.2	3.9	0.5
Imports	0.9	0.8	1.7	-5.5	-0.3	1.1	2.5
Balance of payments year 1980 Em	-2,800	-1,700	-200	-2,000	-1,200	-1,400	-2,750
PSBR (Em fiscal 1980-81)	7,900	10,700	8,750	9,200	8,900	8,500	8,500
Money supply (% change in Em ³ fiscal 1980-81)	9	8.8	7	10.5	11.0	8.3	9

NIESR: National Institute of Economic and Social Research; LBS: London Business School; HG: Hoare Govett; CE: Cambridge Econometrics; STJ: St James Group; published in Economist; P&D: Phillips and Drew.

¹ fourth quarter 1980 on fourth quarter 1979. ² fourth quarter 1980. ³ excluding oil. ⁴ gross fixed investment. ⁵ private fixed investment. ⁶ public corporation's fixed investment. ⁷ second quarter 1981 on second quarter 1980.

Forecasts for gdp components are in constant prices.

The private forecasts assume policy changes. For details readers should refer to original sources. Categories in different forecasts are not completely comparable, but differences are minor. Differences in result also reflect differences in assumption, model constructions and date at which work performed. The month in which work was published is given in brackets. Forecasts, published by the Treasury twice-yearly: NIESR, CE and STJ four times a year; LBS three times a year; HG and P&D revise their forecasts every month.

Furniture orders show steep fall

By Derek Harris

Declining sales and steeply rising imports are facing Britain's £2,000m-a-year furniture industry with what was described yesterday as its "worst crisis since 1975".

Orders on hand in the first three months of this year had plunged by a third compared with the same period last year, said Mr Jerrold Nathan, chairman of the Furniture Information Council. Deliveries into the retail trade were down 15 per cent in the first quarter.

The decline in orders reflects not only de-stocking by furniture retailers but also the growing volume of imports, which have been helped by the strengthening of sterling.

There is particular anxiety over low-cost imports from eastern European countries and there have been discussions with the Department of Trade's anti-dumping unit about them. Other low-cost imports are coming increasingly from countries like Taiwan and Indonesia.

Last year furniture imports for the first time for years exceeded exports in value. "The situation has become much worse during the first three months of this year. Imports to the end of March were at £73.9m, already £13.3m ahead of exports in the same period", Mr Nathan said.

Business totals £430m for British computer services last year

By Kenneth Owen

Technology Editor

The computing services industry in Britain increased its volume of business by almost 30 per cent in 1979 to reach a total of over £430m, according to government statistics, just published.

This represents a "notable achievement" against a background of industrial unrest which characterized the year, the Department of Industry comments in the introduction to *Business Monitor*, which contains the figures.

In general the pattern of services did not show any drastic variation from previous years. Compared with 1978 the proportion of total billings to the public sector was almost unchanged, while that to the private sector and to overseas clients increased at the expense of billings to parent and associate companies. More than half the work of the industry continued to be for the private sector.

The number of employees in the industry increased steadily throughout the year to reach 23,832 (on the basis of 144 companies which responded to the *Business Monitor* inquiry). This increase was largely concentrated among professional staff.

Total billings rose from

Sir Keith Joseph says inflation is near its peak

By John Huxley

Inflation and interest rates are at or near their peak and should begin to drop in coming months, Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, said yesterday.

But he said that it was impossible to predict when demand within the economy would pick up. In recent weeks demand had dropped suddenly and sharply, largely because of de-stocking.

Conventional economic wisdom suggested that when inflation goes high people "want out of money and into goods" but savings were now running at about 18 per cent of national income.

Sir Keith said that this savings ratio was now the "joker in the pack". Nobody could say when the current account deficit would change.

Meanwhile industry needed to improve its profitability, which was up to six times worse than that of some overseas competitors, Sir Keith said.

"The trouble, of course, and it is desperate, is that profits scarcely exist in British industry. If you apply inflation accounting to many companies you find that they are paying dividends, if they pay them at all, and tax out of capital."

Earlier, Mr Leonard Regan, president of the confederation, said that profitability was the key to the textile industry's problems. Falling profits had reduced investment by about 10 per cent on 1979 levels. If this continued over the next two years, the industry faced disaster.

Mr Regan said: "We all recognize the need to conquer inflation but I hope the Government realizes fully the risks to the long term future of the textiles industry which present economic constraints are causing."

He reminded Sir Keith that the textiles and clothing industries account for almost 10 per cent of total manufacturing output in the United Kingdom. Exports totalled £2,000m a year.

Sir Keith said that the Government was limited in its ability to help the industry with its present difficulties. But he disclosed that he intended to improve public purchasing although it would take some time to educate purchasing officers to adopt "enlightened" policies.

The industry has complained that some public authorities have chosen to buy from overseas suppliers. British-made goods were available.

BANK FIGURES

The following are the figures for the United Kingdom banks released by the Bank of England yesterday:

	LIQUID	ANNUAL RATE	RATIO
1979			
May	43,409	27.5	13.5
June	43,889	27.6	13.3
July	49,136	14.8	13.3
Aug	49,253	12.6	13.3
Sept	50,093	9.1	13.3
Oct	51,282	18.6	13.2
Nov	52,263	20.7	13.2
Dec	51,647	13.2	13.2
1980			
Jan	52,537	13.5	19.3
Feb	52,893	4.9	13.2
March	52,779	9.0	13.1
April	54,317	10.8	13.2
May	55,221	18.0	13.1

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Hopes are again deferred

Government broker went quickly into yesterday morning and ahead of the figures he managed to sell some of 10m tap stock, partly-paid Exchequer cent 1994 at a premium of around

the banking figures had been published certainly would not have been that; they suggest that hopes for substantial fall in interest rates are faded and that left the gilts market groggy.

initially fell by about 1 point only on overseas buying leaving falls at about 1 point. Some discount high were starting to lengthen their look in expectation of an early fall were caught off balance. But the expectations on interest rates now

problem of the government's net funding in this fiscal year for an imminent bull market in lashed for the moment. With shorts standing at around 17 per cent, long gilts at about 14 per cent, investors have certainly

insider their next moves. Ironically, a disappointing at this end of the market is relatively good news to investors. say they were clearly not deterred

rise in money supply; the hopes of rates staying high a while longer sterling will remain relatively firm foreign buyers into gilts. Government, one way out of the

issues from manufacturing could get short shrift in the current

Carless is taking no chances with a deep 25 per cent discount on overnight price, especially as the even on optimistic assumptions 100-120p range. The 1-for-4 issue

money will be used in the main- tain on a new refinery plant and the Harwich and Middlesbrough

Grand Metropolitan looked over after swallowing Wamey and the shares fell to 18 1/2p as one or e wondered whether it would go

all at once. Its figures come into the accounts from June 1, so this year will include only four months profits. But the following year should tell a different story.

If United Kingdom interest rates do start falling soon Grand Met will be a leading beneficiary. The Liggitt deal lifted the ratio of debt to equity to 65 per cent, and, despite the cash call, interest charges in the half year to March 31 rose £1.2m to £23.3m.

This is a sizeable sum against interim pre-tax profits of £61.2m (against £50.7m), or several millions more than the market expected. Before interest, profits were £84.5m against £72.8m, a testimony to success in adding costs to prices in what is essentially a drinks concern first and an hotel and foods business second.

Alcoholic drink appears in several of the group's product divisions but contribute the best part of £60m to the £84.5m trading profit. Hotels assisted by price increases did well, and so did betting and gaming though casinos earned less than £4m.

In the full year 1978-79 Grand Met raised pretax profits by 17 per cent; and in the past six months by 21 per cent despite a cautious forecast from Mr Max Joseph at the annual meeting in March.

The chairman is once again cautious, so a 21 per cent rise in pretax profits to £165m for the full year may be beyond reach. Meanwhile the interim dividend is 15 per cent up, indicating a yield (at 142p) of less than 6 1/2 per cent.

Allied Breweries Strong in the second half

Full-year results from Allied Breweries provide some encouraging evidence of progress. Excluding property sales of £10.4m against £14.5m, profits have risen by 5 per cent to £103m, and depending on a host of imponderables like the impact of the weather on beer and ice-cream sales and the level of interest rates, an increase of 10 to 20 per cent looks possible in 1980-81.

With the dividend up a tenth—comfortably covered by CCA profits—and the shares 2 1/2p firmer at 81 1/2p, a yield of 8.8 per cent is not to be sniffed at compared to what is on offer elsewhere in the sector.



Mr Keith Showering, chairman and chief executive of Allied Breweries.

But there are doubts. The performance of the beer side is confused by the Warrington strike which straddled both 1979-80 and the preceding year. However an 11 per cent rise in profits to £57.6m from beer in the British Isles on a small volume increase looks reasonable without providing firm evidence that market share problems have been overcome.

Elsewhere, Allied's strength in wines and spirits is paying off with this division showing a 16 per cent rise to £51m and there has been some progress with J. Lyons as food division profits were a quarter higher at £23m.

However, the pretax divisional breakdown needs treating with some caution as there is no clear indication where property profits fall while the £6.4m rise in interest charges has been tipped into unallocated central services.

Meanwhile the balance sheet is looking healthier. An extraordinary loss of £16.7m reflects meat business disposals but with the property revaluation throwing up £253m and net debt slightly down, gearing has tumbled from three-quarters to less than half.

Jerusalem

With the glare of international publicity temporarily diverted by the deteriorating security position in the occupied West Bank, Israel's three-year-old coalition government is fighting a losing battle to control a rate of inflation now estimated by many local economists to be the highest in the world.

Any hope that Mr Yigael Hurvitz, the hardline finance minister, might have succeeded in his promise to right the financial wrongs committed by Mr Simcha Erlich, his ineffectual predecessor, were dashed by the publication of the April consumer price index, which recorded an unhealthy rise of 10.3 per cent.

By taking the twelve-month period back to April, 1979, the state-controlled Israel Radio announced grimly that the annual inflation rate was now well over 130 per cent, and that Israel had overtaken Argentina to lead the world inflation league.

"Using that method of calculation, I am afraid that the claim is true," a Bank of Israel spokesman said. "It is not something that any of us can be proud of."

The size of the jump appeared to take treasury officials by surprise and it immediately prompted Mr Hurvitz to order a further round of budget cuts from ministries which had agreed their final allocations for 1980 only a few weeks before. At the same time government ministries were temporarily banned from signing any new contracts with foreign companies.

The defence budget, taking 32 per cent of the total and as yet unaffected by the peace treaty with Egypt, suffered most. It was the demand that a further £150m should be pruned which prompted the acrimonious and politically damaging resignation of defence minister of the popular Mr Ezer Weizman.

Political commentators would be quick to point out that it would be the ultimate Middle East irony if the most hawkish adviser to Israel's history were to fall because of attempts to guard the size of his budget.

Mr Weizman's departure was followed by unseemly wrangling among the coalition partners and a postponement of the final vote on the proposed cuts until next Monday—the day on which the May price index is due for publication. Already, there is speculation that it too, could reach double figures.

The Government regards the new and the small business as the prime means of reducing the rate of unemployment in Britain. This belief, however, is not based upon an objective examination of past trends in the small business sector.

A big transformation would have to take place in the British economy if small manufacturing companies were to have a sizeable impact on employment in the next decade. Overestimating the present potential and past performance of new and small businesses will only lead to unreasonable expectations.

Such expectations are fuelled, for example, by misinterpreting the results of a study of the employment change by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This study showed that 66 per cent of the net increase in jobs between 1969 and 1976 in the United States was created by companies employing fewer than 20 people—with all of this increase being in service sector firms. Unfortunately, this study is frequently reported as showing that 66 per cent of all new jobs were created in small businesses.

Typically, the study is also used to contrast the performance of the small company in Britain and America. But, in fact, in manufacturing, where strictly comparable data exist for both countries, the British small business performs equally as well as its United States counterpart.

It is also often suggested that new business formation rates in Britain have fallen continuously since the war. This again is untrue. Company registrations and registrations of business names data shows an almost continuous increase since 1950. In 1979, there were four times as many registrations as in 1949.

Evidence provided by Fothergill and Guggin* also shows from a study of manufacturing firms in Leicestershire that new business formations in the 1968-75 period were 50 per cent higher than for the 1947-55 period and that employment in surviving companies on average was also higher than in the earlier period.

The recurrent quotation of data provided by the Bolton Committee showing a continuous decline for thirty years in the proportion of manufacturing employment and net output provided by small firms is also misleading.

There has been a marked reversal of this trend in the past 10 years with small manufacturing companies becoming progressively more, rather than less, important. These changes in trend were, in fact, under way by the time the Bolton Committee reported in 1971, but commentators continue to cite the Bolton data.

It is necessary to put small business in context. The arithmetic coincidence that there are 1,300,000 small businesses in Britain which, by employing one out of every four people, virtually eliminate unemployment, is less relevant than the recognition that, for many, this would represent a doubling in their labour force.

In any case, in five years' time 30 per cent of such businesses will not exist, although others may have taken their place. Historically there are examples of new businesses which have generated employment quickly, but they are the exception rather than the rule. The most telling statistic about new manufacturing firms in Britain is that the chances of such a business surviving and growing to 100 employees in a decade is between 1 and 2 of 1 per cent.

Comparisons are often made between the number of small businesses in Britain and Japan, the United States and West Germany, suggesting that absence of small businesses is a root cause of Britain's poor economic performance over a number of years. This is a particularly dangerous logic since it excludes factors which are arguably more relevant to such a topic—investment, labour relations, managerial performance, public expenditure. The

steel-ribbed glass doors. Weeds were growing between the tiles of the observation platform where a hankie has yet to flutter.

Official figures show that 2,000 spectators a day come to Narita. To see some, I had to look far back and up to a cage on the roof of the terminal. I could see a dozen. They, like anybody travelling by road from Tokyo to Narita, must negotiate a wire fence and gate across the expressway guarded by a riot policeman with rifle and shield. It is also 40 odd miles from Tokyo.

For all this, Narita is no hellhole. For space, comfort and cleanliness it is hard to believe that it shares the same planet with Heathrow. But the story does not end there.

There is one 4,000-metre runway, second only in length to that of Kennedy Airport, New York. There are plans to build two more: to do this it will be necessary to slide some more farmers as well as the radicals. What then?

Under the circumstances, said the president of the airport authority, Shigeru Otsuka, on opening day, "we are determined to exert further efforts based on the lessons already learnt."

One in every ten cheques bounces and moonlighting has become a national pastime

Is Israel's economy out of control?



Mr Ezer Weizman (left), who resigned as Defence Minister after the call for further cuts in the Israeli defence budget and Mr Yigael Hurvitz, the Finance Minister, whose policies have not so far lived up to expectations.



Disclosure of the April jump coincided with the first six months of Mr Hurvitz's tenure as finance minister, a job on which he embarked last November with an extravagantly worded promise to "cut from the living flesh" in an effort to nurse Israel's overheated economy back to health. In a few areas, particularly the subsidies, he has kept strictly to his word. But in many others, political considerations and the power of individual ministers inside the shakr and divided coalition have caused him to act less resolutely.

Independent economic experts point out that the minister has done little to deal with chronic overstaffing in the public sector, to control the almost feudal power of the big spending ministries or to stop the wholesale printing of money. The extent to which this has been continuing recently, let Mr Ami Amichai, leader of the opposition faction on the Knesset finance committee, to dub Mr Hurvitz as "the greatest printer in Israel."

Also—apparently because of his own hawkish views—Mr Hurvitz has done nothing to curb spending devoted to expanding costly Jewish settlements of occupied Arab land.

But perhaps the finance minister's most conspicuous failure was the attempt last February to mount a psychological challenge to inflation by changing the currency from the

Israeli pound to the biblical Shekel, the ancient tender of the patriarch Abraham. The move involved nothing more than moving the decimal point one place to the left and was not accompanied by any financial measures. As a result, it has been greeted with almost total scepticism by the long-suffering Israeli public and is now officially acknowledged to have failed to encourage new respect for the fast-shrinking national currency.

The cynical response of most Israelis was accurately summed up by a cartoon in the Jerusalem Post which showed a rickety biplane in a nose-dive. A nervous passenger warns the pilot that they are hurtling to a certain crash at 220 kilometres an hour. "That's only

132 miles an hour", observes the unflappable aviator. When the incredulous passenger inquires if the calculation was intended to reassure him, the unconcerned pilot replies: "Sure—same principle as the Shekel!"

By the time the currency changeover is complete at the end of the year the finance ministry estimates that Israel's national debt will have soared to 20,000m American dollars and the balance of payments deficit will be standing at 55,000m. Some foreign observers critical of the Israeli Government's unbending policies on many Middle East issues note hopefully that the economic weakness at home will increase the country's dependence on American financial largesse—and thus the possibility of American pressure being exerted after the presidential elections in November.

Meanwhile, in an economic situation which many political analysts would describe as theoretically ripe for a coup, Israeli citizens continue to cope with runaway inflation in a variety of ways, both legal and illegal. It is no coincidence that the latest figures show that one in every 10 cheques in the country bounces and that "moonlighting" has become a national pastime. But more significant is the system of indexing which is constantly being improved to protect workers against the ravages of inflation.

From last month wages are being automatically altered every quarter—instead of every six months—to account for 80 per cent of the increase in the cost of living index in the previous period. Similarly, savings can be placed in a time deposit account which grows with the price index. If an Israeli deposits £1,000 and prices double in a year, he will automatically be credited with £2,000 on deposit. Also, taxes are paid only on the 3 or 4 per cent interest, not on the growth of the principal.

These, and other ingenious fiscal devices, have so far successfully warded off the most dangerous political consequences of hyperinflation. But there is a growing body of responsible economic opinion now convinced that until the average Israeli is made to suffer the effects of the high level of inflation more fully, little result can be expected from the continuing struggle to eliminate it.

Christopher Walker

Pinning too much hope on the small business

David Storey

absent of small business in any country is equally likely to be a consequence of, as a cause of, poor economic performance.

What we need is a balanced view of the possible contribution of new and small businesses. British studies have shown that, in manufacturing, only the small business sector has shown a net tendency to increase employment in the past ten years.

Small companies should therefore be encouraged—but with reservations. The first is that we should not expect too much of them. The second is that present policies will have the least impact upon areas of high unemployment.

Studies of the new company founder have consistently identified certain important characteristics of success. An employee in a company employing fewer than 10 people is 15 times more likely to start in business than one in a company employing more than 500.

The successful entrepreneur is a well educated with managerial experience. Normally he or she is sufficiently wealthy to con-

vince a bank or other financial institution to lend money. By far the largest concentrations of these ingredients for successful entrepreneurship—managerial talent, wealth, educational attainment and small firms—are in the prosperous south. They are most certainly not in North-east England or West Central Scotland. Since the new company founder normally establishes his business close to his home, present incentives to new and small companies risk being regionally divisive.

Only if incentives are substantially regionally differentiated is there much prospect of influencing unemployment in blackspots. Even then, it is unlikely that results will be apparent for a decade, but a start has to be made to prevent such areas falling even further.

The author is a research officer at the Centre for Environmental Studies, London.

*The Job Generation Process in Britain, CES Research Series No 32, available from CES, 623 Chandos Place, London WC2N 4HH.

Business Diary: Behind closed doors



Airport protesters point flag poles at riot police lines during the Narita disturbances two years ago.

This does not mention the baton fights, the water cannon and the gas barrages.

The diary of events starts in 1963, and a gleam in the eye of the transport minister, but ends in January 1978, four months before opening day and two months before radical students and displaced farmers stormed and wrecked this very control tower. Hence the guards and the combination locks.

All this was before Oshima, formerly an airworthiness expert with the civil aviation bureau, took over a year ago. His new job, he said, with an understatement that is as British as Japanese is "completely different."

I reckon that it will be another five years or so before we will see how successful Oshima and his team will be in getting Narita off the ground. The

view from the control tower is less comforting than that from the brochure. Oshima handed me some binoculars through which, beyond the electrified wire that surrounds the airport, I could see three of the "solidarity houses" and pill-boxes the demonstrators have ringed around Narita.

One, bedecked with political bunting and itself protected by wire, flanked by brightly coloured flags, is in the middle of what within five years will be Narita's third runway.

Having delayed but failed to forestall the opening of the airport, the demonstrators—of whom 200 to 300 continue to live around the perimeter—are now hanging fire. They content themselves, for now, with a monthly protest meeting which might draw 4,000 people. The

loons are released to mess up the airport radar. It is a year, I was told, since the protesters tried electronic means to fuddle the control tower's radio signals.

When Oshima and I bowed our farewell, he handed me over to Naohiko Takesue of the new Tokyo international airport authority. He took me to another Narita pressure point, a place he was now to visit for only the second time in his seven years on the spot.

This is a public observation platform, one of four, running atop corridors leading to the gate lounges where people embark and disembark. Each lounge can service seven planes, whose occupants were to have been viewed at by well-wishers on the observation platforms.

Takesue led me past knots of armed police, then through the

British Investment Trust

Highlights from the Report and Accounts for the year to 31st March 1980.

Year to 31st March	Total Assets £	Total Revenue £	Earnings p	Dividend p	N.A.V. per Ord. Share p
1976	120,323,000	4,746,000	3.55	3.50	171 1/2
1977	118,353,000	5,325,000	4.36	4.30	175 1/2
1978	126,015,000	5,603,000	4.80	4.85	188 1/2
1979	139,461,000	6,158,000	6.11	5.70	211
1980	122,829,000	8,315,000	8.18	7.85	184 1/2

REVENUE
Total revenue showed a very satisfactory increase of some 35% over the previous year. In the U.K. there was a substantial increase in dividends received, partly reflecting the release of accumulated payments after the abolition of dividend controls. Interest on short term deposits was greatly increased, due to the higher levels of deposits maintained during the year and the high rates of return obtained. Revenue from gilts and properties was also higher. Overseas revenue was reduced by the continuing strength of Sterling and some repatriation of funds to the U.K.

DIVIDEND
In view of the large increase in revenue the Board have declared dividends for the year totalling 7.85p per share, an increase of some 37%, including a special dividend of 0.85p per share paid out of the exceptional U.K. dividends received.

CAPITAL
A combination of a declining U.K. stock market, the firm trend of Sterling against virtually all foreign currencies and the abolition of the investment currency premium had an adverse effect on the value of the assets. Despite a good market performance from the North American investments and a reasonable increase in the valuation of the properties, there was an overall reduction in total assets of £16 1/2 million and the Net Asset Value fell by 12 1/2% to 184 1/2p per share.

PROSPECTS
The international economic outlook is not encouraging with the likelihood of a fairly severe world-wide recession and the unstable situation in the Middle East. In the U.K. the growing benefit of North Sea oil should substantially offset the otherwise uncertain economic prospects, while overseas markets continue to offer on a selective basis attractive investment opportunities in the current difficult economic and political climate.

Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts may be obtained from The Secretary, The British Investment Trust Limited, 46 Castle Street, Edinburgh, EH2 3BR.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Fears over money supply halt rally

One of the market's best rallies in recent weeks was clipped in mid-flight yesterday by a dismal set of banking figures.

Until the announcement in the late afternoon, even the all-powerful institutions had been out in force, swayed by the possibility of a bull market soon. Prices again raced ahead, helped by some strong speculative buying and a general shortage of stock among some jobbers.

Clear evidence of the improvement was seen early in the morning when two leading merchant banks were seen filling their shopping baskets hoping to pick up one or two bargains after the wholesale price index figures and ahead of the banking figures.

The story was similar in gilts, where institutional buyers were clearly in evidence, helping to swell the ranks of buyers which activated the new medium term stock. The Government broker sold stock at £1 before closing after hours.

However, the announcement of the banking figures brought a short, sharp reaction to the market which had been hoping for something substantially better.

Sellers appeared in large numbers and prices reacted accordingly. In longer earlier gains of between £1 and £1.50 gave way to falls of roughly £1 to £1.50. Shorter, after active two-way business early on resulting in rises of between £1.16 and £1.50, eventually lost £1 overall.

Jobbers admitted that the figures had come as something of a shock and were now eagerly awaiting the retail price index on Friday for any improvement.

Equities also suffered, with prices being marked lower.

However, this provoked one or two cheap buyers at the lower levels which helped to cushion the blow.

But the banking figures clearly had done much damage with the FT Index closing only 5.9 up at 440.3 after touching 8.4 at one point.

Leading industrialists were quick to benefit from the early influx of institutional money. ICI rose 6p to 366p on the back of comment regarding a bull on comment regarding a bull.

With full-year results due in three weeks, Imperial Continental Gas is likely to follow its tradition of pulling a little extra out of the hat to surprise the market. Profits estimates are for about £37m against £33.7m last time. Yesterday the share price rose 12p to 864p, a new high.

market. Unilever again performed well, rising 3p to 446p, Becton Dickinson 132p, Courtaulds at 66p, Fisons at 252p and Dunlop 67p were all 2p higher. Rank continued to reap the benefit of its decision to

withdraw from films and rose 2p to 194p.

In foods Cadbury Schweppes dipped 1p to 200p on the announcement of redundancies while speculative support after the Monopolies reference boosted British Sugar 6p to 200p.

Further reflection of recent figures put 2p on Associated British Foods before closing unchanged at 96p while Sainsbury rose 5p to 378p on speculation.

Among companies reporting Grand Met rose 3p to 142p after better than expected interim figures while Allied Breweries put on 2p after its preliminary statement which was also above market estimates. But International Timber failed to please and slipped 2p to 111p along with J. W. Spear, 7p lighter at 113p, and Elson Robbins, 4p off at 86p.

Metal Box, with figures out today, rose 2p to 272p. Sidlaw, reporting Friday, advanced 4p to 113p.

The Opec talks in Algeria provided another nervous session in oils where the profit-takers were clearly in evidence,

particularly among the second liners. Carless Capel dipped 6p to 130p after its cash call to shareholders for £9.5m while the failure to pay a dividend left Premier Oil, a strong market of late, down 4p at 89p.

Profit-taking lopped 6p from Tricent at 380p, Lasmo 10p at 670p and Attock 2p at 294p.

The major BP continued to make further ground after reports of a major oil find earlier in the week, rising 2p to 366p, while Ultramar rose 6p to 362p and Shell 2p to 404p.

In mines the weakness of the bullion price, which fell £22 to \$604, saw prices fall back in what jobbers again described as volatile conditions. Several of the June dividend payments were deemed below par and did little to help the depressed conditions.

At the heavy end Anglo Am Gold slipped £3/16 to £36 13/16 with Vaal Reef £2 lower at £26 and St Helena £2 off at £14, among the cheaper issues. Viceroy fell 27p to 71p, Kinross 23p to 524p, Doornfontein 22p to 658p and

Middle Wits 20p to 440p. In mining financials, Cons Gold rose 2p to 483p with RTZ holding on at 395p.

Australian shares came in for profit-taking after some recent good gains with Poseidon down 16p at 176p and Kalgoorlie 18p to 340p.

Stores also had a worrying time despite the wholesale figures on Monday with a bear squeeze keeping jobbers on their toes.

In electricals bid hopes continue to inspire shares of Ferranti, which rose 6p to

Speculators tumbled out of Highland Distillers yesterday, as share price went against the trend, dipping 4p to 142p. Market rumours suggest that investors may have to wait even longer for the outcome of bid from Hiram Walker, due at the end of July. The bid is now expected to be referred to the Secretary of Trade, which means an announcement some time in September.

539p, while a bullish statement lifted Standard Telephone 14p to 312p and an end to short-term working pushed MK Electric up 11p at 173p. Diploma was another firm spot, also up 10p at 437p. Farnell Electric rose 4p ahead of tomorrow's annual meeting to 274p.

Equity turnover on June 9 was £93,721m (13,999 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Ultramar, Lasmo, Shell, BP, De La Rue, Barclays, United Dominions Trust, Grand Met, RTZ, Marks & Spencer, Bowness, Beechams, GUS, Sears and Courtaulds.

Another scrip issue from Great Portland

By Michael Prest

For the third year running, Great Portland Estates, most of whose properties are in the West End and City of London, is proposing a scrip issue. While pre-tax net revenue is up £12.7m at £7.02m for the year to the end of March, the final dividend is 4p net, the same as last year, making an unchanged 5p net for the year.

Whereas the 1979 scrip issue was one-for-two, 1980's is one-for-four. But as was the case last year, the new shares, if a capital increase is authorized, will not qualify for the dividend. Allowing for the increase, the full dividend is equivalent to 3.33p net in 1979.

Gross rental income was £10.1m, compared with £8.73m. Most of the increase came from higher rents in the course of the year. Despite the tax charge rising slightly from £2.64m to £2.93m, net revenue from completed properties showed a 32 per cent increase from £3.17m to £4.19m.

During the year, Great Portland realized a surplus on sales of investment properties of £320,000 after capital gains tax. The equivalent figure last year was £170m. Such proceeds are transferred to the Capital Reserve and are not included in net revenue.

At the end of the previous financial year, the company's cash and deposits in its balance sheet of £3.17m.

As a result of the last scrip issue, the number of issued shares rose from 44.2m to 68.7m. If the latest proposed capital increase is approved, that number will increase to 85.9m.

Poor final quar hits International Timber results

By Catherine Guan

The last quarter of International Timber's year saw a dramatic downturn in demand. Both the building and the furniture industries are suffering from a decline in activity, and the immediate outlook for timber merchants now "is clearly not very bright", Mr Ronald Groves, the chairman, said yesterday.

Group sales dropped by "a good 10 per cent" in volume in the quarter to end-March; and were 10 to 12 per cent lower in April and May. Because timber prices have risen, sales in sterling terms are now flat.

The full-year results to end-March, which include 12 months of Bambergers, show a £689,000 increase to £8.74m pre-tax, on turnover of £216m, against £167m. Roughly £100,000 of pre-tax profits shown in the first half from the Bambergers interests, subsequently sold for £52m, were then taken out of the second half's figures.

Redundancy costs were £700,000. The Great Yarmouth business has been closed with the loss of 150 jobs. Property sales worth £10 should follow this year, providing a profit of

up to £300,000, again in 1979-80.

Year-end borrowings are £6.3m lower at £2 most of that in mortgages. The rights are about £6.3m towards small acquisitions; additions are pending costs - kept from £4.3m, however.

The trend towards buying by large users continues. Last year more marked as user the market, anticipa like IT's subsequent themselves unable to usual volume.

ITS's growth lies in Jewellery building materials, which also sawing and heating equipment - enjoying a boom as page famine causes improvements.

IT's share price was crowded, DIY market happy to stay in the Capital expenditure was £3m, with Jew half of last year's higher profit similar total this y

J W Spear says profits will fall

Despite efforts to contain costs, Mr Arthur Stephenson, chairman of J. W. Spear, says that profits this year are likely to show a fall. Home margins have been hard to maintain, and export margins suffered severely from the strength of sterling.

Sales for 1979 rose from £6.89m to £7.19m, but pre-tax profits dipped from £1.82m to £1.62m. Earnings a share were 24.38p against 25.1p, while the dividend went ahead from 3p to 8.7p gross.

Orders have been slow coming in this year, as the order book has only the same value as this time last year.

An improvement in orders is profits dipped from 1.82m to total sales should show an increase in value, although a drop in value is likely.

Sir Hugh Fraser strengthens his hand

More voting power has been bought by the Trusts of the House of Fraser. It was announced last night that the non-beneficial interests of the stores group chairman, Sir Hugh Fraser, has bought a further 100,000 shares, lifting their stake over the past few weeks from around 21 per cent to just over 3 per cent.

The voting will come into play at the Fraser annual meeting next Thursday, when trading group Loorth will attempt to lift the final dividend from 4p to 6p and put four of its directors on the Board.

Fairline Boats dips in first half

Turnover of Fairline Boats went up from a record £2.26m to £2.52m in the six months to March 31, but pre-tax profits eased from £283,000 to £264,000. Earnings a share were 3.6p against 4.9p. The interim is 2.42p gross.

Higher costs are blamed for the slip in profits by Mr Sam Newington, chairman of the group, which came to the market a year ago.

No final dividend from Aero Needles

There is no final dividend from Aero Needles Group, AEBN Bank, BCCI Bank, Consolidated, C. C. House & Co., Lloyds Bank, London Mercant, Midland Bank, Nat Westminster, Rosminster, TSB, Williams and Gyl

against 1.2p last year. A loss at the trade £44,000 for 1979 profit of £385,000.

However, after £337,500 against a loss of profits a profit is struck against £460,000, it will receive the net gross against a net year of 3.45p gross.

Earnings a share given after credit extraordinary item against £180,600, a 7.46p to 14p.

Ocean Wilsons gives scrip

The board of Ocean Wilsons (Holdings) propose one scrip issue. The year to Janu £25.46m against £4. Pre-tax profits compared with £2 dividend was 6.42p to 5.0p. Earnings a share 10.19p against 13.1p.

The market value group's listed invest up from £4.3m to show a surplus of £2.1m against £2.02

Gold mines give huge dividends

A spectacular list of 850 cents has b. West Driefontein, Gold Fields of So mines. This makes for the full year cents.

Although West D highest single divi members of the gro

Final payout rose 4 to 135 cents, Kloe cent to 240 cents, fountein's 250 per cents.

Another gold p pany, Barlow Rand, day that two of its ban Report Des

of which are on star will increase retent higher capital spen

Bank Rate

AEBN Bank, BCCI Bank, Consolidated, C. C. House & Co., Lloyds Bank, London Mercant, Midland Bank, Nat Westminster, Rosminster, TSB, Williams and Gyl

* 7 day deposit on £10,000 and over to £25,000 15% p.a. £25,000 15% p.a.

Drilling has also started at the on-land well near Brora, Scotland.

Accounts prepared under provision of SSAP15.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
£m	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Im or Fla	7.7(7.78)	0.29(0.46)	14.0(7.5)	1.6(2.41)	—	—
Aero Needles (F)	2.200(2.133)	113(112)	13.3(14.2)	3.0(—)	—	5.0(4.39)
Allied Breweries (F)	35.5(32.9)	1.24(1.02)	17.2(25.5)	6.76(6.76)	8/7	9.0(8.03)
Babco (F)	2.5(2.2)	0.36(0.28)	3.6(4.9)	1.7(—)	3/9	3.5(5)
Fastlane Boats (I)	10.1(8.7)	7.02(5.73)	6.2(4.8)	4(4)	6/1	5.7(4.7)
Gr Portland (F)	1.153.9(992.9)	61.2(50.7)	—	2.8(2.5)	—	—
Grand Met (I)	1.72(1.76)	0.18(0.18)	0.2(0.1)	5.6(5.09)	—	—
Imperial Continental Gas (F)	216.5(167.4)	8.74(8.05)	26.0(27.1)	3.5(—)	—	4.5(3.5)
Int Timber (F)	25.5(42.9)	2.95(3.17)	11.19(13.27)	NU(NU)	—	NU(NU)
Ocean Wilsons (F)	0.85(0.13)	0.099(0.104)	2.48(2.34)	1.5(2.5)	—	1.5(2.5)
Samuel Sherman (F)	7.19(5.8)	0.03(0.2)	1.8(5.7)	—	—	—
J. W. Spear (F)	4.87(5.09)	0.03(0.2)	1.8(5.7)	—	—	—
Sumrie Clothes	—	—	—	—	—	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. * Loss.

Briefly

Pickering Brothers is to sell Microfilm to Frankel Microfilm Holdings, holding company for Intec Group. Completion is expected in July and consideration represents less than 17 per cent of Pickering's assets.

Archimedes Investment Trust: Gross revenue for six months to April 30, £68,000 (£38,000). Eps 3.52p (2.73p). Per income share 100.09p (99.17p). Interim 3p (2p) per income share. Board estimates that second interim will be not less than 3.4p (4.1p).

A & O (Retail): Annual report shows the salary of chairman Mr David Quayle rose 77 per cent to £35,015 since the company went public early last year.

Target: Sales for half year to March 31 fell from £2.3m to £1.7m. Pre-tax loss £130,000 (£178,000). Depressed sales and increased costs likely to continue for rest of year, board says.

Bankers Investment Trust: Total income for six months to March 31, £2.01m. Eps 3.915p (2.521p). NAV 79.3p (87.7p). Dividend total 3.86p (2.875p).

Local Authority Bonds: Interest rate on this week's issues of local authority yearling bonds is 14 1/2 per cent. The price is 100, against 15 1/2 per cent last week at 100.

Highgate Optical and Industrial: Company turnover for 1979, £1.72m (£3.76m). Pre-tax profit £18,000 (£12,500) including operating losses of French subs £1,700 (£1,700). Extraordinary dividend £2.00p (nil). Eps 0.23p (nil). Dividend 2.57p (same).

A. G. Stanley Holdings: Offer for Morris & Blakey Wall Paper now unconditional. Acceptances reached 99.65 per cent of shares subject to offer.

William Jacks: Total number of ordinary shares which are held by Jacks Investments, a wholly-owned subsidiary of William Jacks and Co (Malaya) Berhad, now amounts to 3,088,570.7 per cent.

Standard Telephones and Cables: Chairman told annual meeting that company has a very strong order book. Board looks forward to a further increase in the number of shareholders and anticipates a significant improvement in results in current year.

United Breweries Group: Turnover for first six months of current year is about 15 per cent up on last year. However, net profit for half to date is lower than last year but group expects net result not lower than net result achieved in 1978-79.

Brokers Link: London stock-brokers Beardon, Langner and Co and Thomson's Equity and Life Brokers have entered into an association designed to widen scope of services that each can offer to their respective clientele.

Alpine Holdings: Chairman repeats that first half will be disappointing. Board is looking for other related activities to add to group.

Business appointments

New managing director for BNOC (Trading)

Mr Ian Goskirk has been appointed deputy managing director of the British National Oil Corporation's subsidiary, BNOC (Trading).

Mr Paul A. Allaire, deputy managing director of Bank Xerox, has been made managing director. On July 1 he succeeds Mr William F. Glavin, who takes up the position of executive vice-president and senior staff officer at Xerox Corporation headquarters in Stamford, Connecticut, United States of America.

Mr John Kenneth Rudgard, sales and marketing director of H. P. Bulmer, has become an executive director of H. P. Bulmer Holdings. He is also managing director of De & Reuss, Bulmer's wines and spirits subsidiary.

Mr Reiner Pientl has been appointed managing director of Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, its previous managing director of the Paris branch, Mr

Sumrie profits hit by redundancy costs and falling sales

By Our Financial Staff

Cheshire-based menswear manufacturer and retailer, Sumrie Clothes ran into difficulties in its second half of March 29. The retail trade is "sluggish", and orders are down. Sales in 1979-80 fell 4.3 per cent to £4.87m.

Pruning back since March has cost the group £219,000 in voluntary redundancies, and it has taken these out of the 1979-80 profit. That knocks the group result down to just £23,000 pre-tax against £384,000 the previous year. The gross dividend has been cut from 3.7p to 2.14p.

High interest rates and the effect of inflation are blamed for the group's problems. Interest costs rose from £17,000 to £47,000. There is a tax credit of £22,000.

Blocking manoeuvre by George Ewer

By Rosemary Unsworth

The battle between T. Cowie and George Ewer entered a new phase yesterday, as brokers Laurence Pratt announced purchases of Ewer shares through the market at 53p each. This is 1p above the Cowie offer price.

A total of 125,000 Ewer shares were brought on behalf of a Ewer associate, 50,000 of which were at 53p, and a further 75,000 at 53p. Yesterday there were further purchases of about 25,000 shares at 53p, thus blocking T. Cowie's hopes of a Ewer takeover.

Meanwhile, postal acceptances for the offer are still coming in but Ewer's financial adviser,

The board is now "implementing plans to operate in a reduced plant area" and expects this to give a "significant reduction" in overheads and costs. Then it will sit tight and wait—or at least hope—for an upturn.

In November 1979, when it announced a good interim performance to end-September, the Sumrie board was hoping for a better full-year result than it actually achieved. Interim pre-tax profits were 37.5 per cent up, at £99,000 and sales were £39,000 better at £2,32m.

But like many others, the board had reckoned without a combination of recession, sustained high interest rates, and an upturn in inflation—which between them depressed the traditionally important second half, which spans Christmas.

Barclays Merchant Bank is unconvinced that T. Cowie will receive the remaining 2.1 per cent it needs to declare the offer unconditional.

Cowie already has 54.2 per cent of acceptances but the new share to be issued for the Eastern Tractors acquisition by Ewer will dilute the combined stake to its current level of 47.3 per cent. The Tractors bid is conditional on a listing being granted for the new shares, and Ewer is hoping that the application will be heard by the Stock Exchange by the end of the week.

Cowie has already said that it would be prepared to pay 50p a share for Ewer without Tractors, and stressed that it would be prepared to sell it if its bid was successful.

Premier plans one-for-ten scrip

By Richard Allen

Premier Consolidated Oilfields' decision earlier this year to raise just over £4m for exploration by a rights issue, rather than sell any of its 3 per cent stake in London & Scottish Marine Oil, has been fully vindicated.

Announcing full-year results yesterday, the United Kingdom independent exploration and production group revealed that its Lasmo stake, worth about £8.2m in January, is now valued at just under £15m.

The group said that it proposes to mark the successful result by a one-for-ten scrip issue. It pays no dividends.

Mr R. C. Shaw, the chairman, said that despite the appreciation in Lasmo shares his group had no intention of taking profits.

In the 12 months to March 31, Premier's pre-tax profits jumped from under £10,000 to just under £220,000 after taking into account operating losses of £492,000 from an American coal mining operation now discontinued.

After tax and unrealized ex-

change losses the net loss for the year rose from £158,543 to £271,295. But Premier announced that the value of unrealized assets had increased considerably during the period.

Although the share issued a couple of pence yesterday they are still riding high on hopes of substantial finds, particularly in the Rocky Mountains, where Premier has recently increased its holding to 383,000 acres.

Drilling has also started at the on-land well near Brora, Scotland.

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After tax and unrealized ex-

The Guardian Investment Trust Company Limited

Results for year ending 31st March 1980:

Total assets stand at £58,000,000
Dividend rises to 4.60p per share

Ten Year Record	Gross Revenue	Earnings per Share	Net Dividend	Net Asset Value
Year to	£'000	p.	p.	p.
31st March	1,547	2.09	1.14	75.

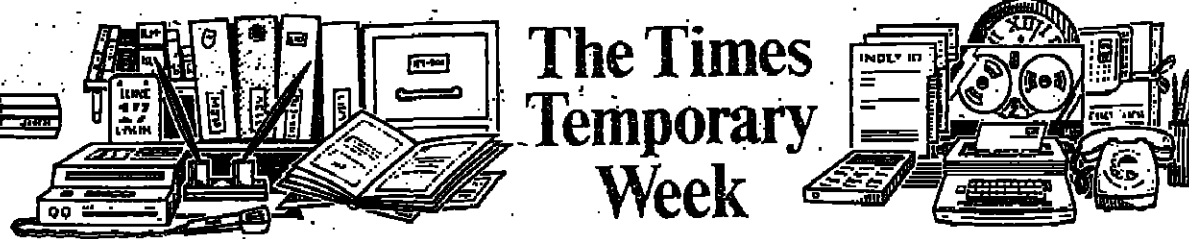
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Wall Street

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Arbitrage Securities (CI) Ltd.	(634 760)
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75.6 Eastern Int'l	110.0 3.21
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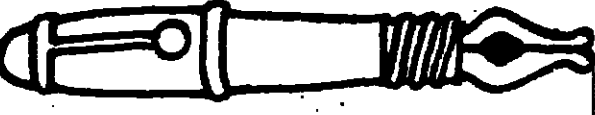
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PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davall

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: No Records for William Thackeray; 7.05 A Matter of Fact; 7.30 Interviewing technique. Closedown at 7.55. 9.25 For Schools: Colleges: Exploring Science (designing structures); 10.12 Words and Pictures; 11.25 You and Me: Duncan the Dragon in A Wet Day; 12.05 am For Schools: Colleges: Russian Language and People, part 18(r). Closedown at 12.30. 1.30 Heads and Tails: Child's view of the animal world. With Derek Griffiths. 1.45 News and weather. 2.01 Schools: Colleges: Watch (cocoons in Africa); 2.18 Near and Far (mountain there for work). Closedown at 2.40. 3.55 Play School: Jean Watson's story A Home for Leith. The presenter is Carol Leader and Michael Mann. 4.20 Terry, It's the King: cartoon.

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Analogue systems; 7.05 The biological environment; 7.30 Biological bases of behaviour. Closedown at 7.55. 10.20 Garbar: For Asian women. Useful items to take when travelling. A story for children, and some music. Closedown at 10.45. 11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1. 11.25 Cricket: The Benson and Hedges Cup. Essex play Surrey, at Chelmsford. It's the quarter final. More play at 1.50. It continues until 4.50. 4.50 Open University: Oxidative phosphorylation (2); 5.15 Cyclo-

BBC 2

Go for It, King (r); 4.30 The Record Breakers: Suffering in Hawaii, and the world's bounciest substance; 4.55 John Craven's Newsround; junior newscast. 5.05 Huntstalker: Penultimate episode of the John Buchan adventure serial; waiting for London (Andrew Fairhead) to open the attack on Huntingtower; 5.35 The Wombles: the tidy denizens of Wimbledon Common. 6.40 News: with Richard Whitmore; 5.55 Nationwide: all the regions unite at 6.17. 6.40 Film: Carry on Cruising (1962). The gang go cruising in the Mediterranean. Their first colour film (but the same off-colour humour). With Sidney James, Kenneth Williams et al. 8.10 The Big Time: New series. A Burnley schoolmaster realises his life's dream—he goes into the professional wrestling ring (see Personal Choice). 9.00 Party Political Broadcast: By the Labour Party. Can be seen on

BBC 2

burdens: 5.40 Block youth in Brazil; 6.30 Visual music. 6.55 Swim: This is an attempt to prove that springboard diving isn't as dangerous and difficult as it looks. With Jennifer Grey, of the Amateur Swimming Association. Useful items to take when travelling. A story for children, and some music. Closedown at 10.45. 11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1. 11.25 Cricket: The Benson and Hedges Cup. Essex play Surrey, at Chelmsford. It's the quarter final. More play at 1.50. It continues until 4.50. 4.50 Open University: Oxidative phosphorylation (2); 5.15 Cyclo-

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Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.30, 8.30 Headlines. 8.55 Yesterday in Parliament. 9.00 News. 9.05 Mid-Week. 10.00 News. 10.02 Gardeners' Question Time. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.35 The Mask of Dimitrios (3). 11.00 News. 11.05 Baker's Dozen. 12.00 News. 12.02 You and Yours. 12.27 Just a Minute. 12.55 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.40 The Archers. 2.00 News. 2.02 Woman's Hour. 2.40 The Archers. 3.15 Play: Tea and Biscuits, by Giles Cole. 4.00 The Archers. 4.02 The Archers. 4.05 The Archers. 4.08 The Archers. 4.11 The Archers. 4.14 The Archers. 4.17 The Archers. 4.20 The Archers. 4.23 The Archers. 4.26 The Archers. 4.29 The Archers. 4.32 The Archers. 4.35 The Archers. 4.38 The Archers. 4.41 The Archers. 4.44 The Archers. 4.47 The Archers. 4.50 The Archers. 4.53 The Archers. 4.56 The Archers. 4.59 The Archers. 5.00 News. 5.02 News. 5.05 News. 5.08 News. 5.11 News. 5.14 News. 5.17 News. 5.20 News. 5.23 News. 5.26 News. 5.29 News. 5.32 News. 5.35 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